MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 JUNE 1982

Lebanon

Cease-Fire, Military Situation -- The IDF ceased fire at 2000 on 25 June in compliance with a U.S. request, IDF radio reported. While Beirut radio said the cease-fire held on 26 and 27 June, the Israeli Air Force destroyed a Syrian SAM-6 battery in the Al-Biqa' Valley early on 26 June, according to Jerusalem radio. The radio said the Syrians had taken advantage of the cease-fire to infiltrate missiles into Lebanon. Jerusalem television subsequently noted that the Israeli Cabinet regards the reintroduction of SAM batteries into Lebanon as a cease-fire violation.

Before the cease-fire, IDF radio reported that the entire Syrian stronghold on the mountains east of Beirut had collapsed. Jerusalem radio subsequently noted that the IDF cease-fire line on the Beirut-Damascus highway is only 40 km from the Syrian capital. Reporting attempts by all sides to reinforce their positions over the weekend, Voice of Lebanon radio spoke of "huge" Israeli troop concentrations just south of Beirut and later reported that Israeli forces were advancing from Bhamdun toward Hammana. Syrian and allied forces in Hammana exchanged artillery fire with the IDF, according to the radio. However, Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon told correspondents on 27 June that the fighting near Hammana was between Syrian and Lebanese Christian forces, IDF radio reported.

A statement broadcast by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said the Israeli bombardment of Beirut on 25 June had caused 2,000 casualties. A 27 June car bomb explosion near the AFP office in west Beirut caused more casualties, according to the radio. Noting that Israeli planes have dropped leaflets calling on civilians to leave west Beirut, a Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces spokesman denied that the joint forces have prevented civilians from leaving the city, the radio noted.

Israeli Policy -- Israel will maintain the cease-fire in Lebanon but will respond with "full severity" to any violation by the other side, the Cabinet secretary announced in an official statement over Jerusalem radio following the 27 June Cabinet meeting. Israel wants all 15 organizations under the aegis of the PLO to hand over their weapons to the Lebanese Army, which should enter west Beirut, and then to leave Beirut and Lebanon for Syria. The departing column will be protected by the International Red Cross and will be guaranteed safe passage along sections of the Beirut-Damascus highway controlled by the IDF, the Cabinet statement said. If the "terrorists" prefer an alternative route, the IDF will make this possible for them.

Political negotiations to guarantee peace, Lebanon's territorial integrity and the departure of all foreign forces can follow the "liberation" of west Beirut and the reunification of the Lebanese capital, the statement added. It said Israel will gladly accept the good offices of the United States in the negotiations for such an agreement, which will also ensure Israel's security.

Commenting on the Cabinet meeting, IDF radio said Israel's demands, which have now been made clear, are generally acceptable to the United States, except for the question of whether all the "terrorists" should be removed, or only their leaders. The radio also noted that Israeli sources had disclosed that contrary to reports published in Washington, Prime Minister Menahem Begin did not promise President Ronald Reagan that Israel would not enter Beirut. Defense Minister Sharon said that if there is no response to Israel's demands, then a new Cabinet resolution will be needed, according to another report by the radio. Sharon also told correspondents that Israel will make every conceivable effort to get the PLO to leave Beirut without a battle, the radio subsequently reported.

Noting that Israel awaits answers and clarifications on political questions from U.S. envoy Philip Habib, Jerusalem radio said Israel's call for the departure of all "terrorists" from Lebanon was in addition to its previous demand that the PLO leaders leave the country. It said the Cabinet resolution, which is a compromise between various positions presented at the Cabinet session, offers the PLO a generous proposal: not surrender, but to leave Lebanon in an organized way.

PLO Contacts, Stand -- An official Palestinian source disclosed on 27 June that U.S. envoy Habib had communicated to the PLO new U.S. proposals which constitute a compromise between the vetoed French draft UN Security Council resolution and Israel's conditions for ending the Beirut problem, Beirut radio reported. The Palestinian official said the U.S. proposals involve "positive loosening up." On the same day, PLO Executive Committee member Khalid al-Hasan told the Kuwaiti daily AL-ANBA' that the PLO categorically rejects Israel's proposals for the Palestinain forces to leave Lebanon and will "fight to the last man," AFP reported. However, early on 28 June, Lebanese Government sources disclosed that the PLO had agreed to hand over its weapons to the Lebanese Army and evacuate all its fighters to another Arab capital by sea, on condition that the Israelis withdraw 5 km from their present positions around Beirut, according to Monte Carlo radio. On the other hand, the PLO information spokesman subsequently announced in a statement broadcast by the Voice of Palestine that the Palestinians will fight until victory or martyrdom. He scored reports aimed at "undermining the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples' steadfastness." Meanwhile, Beirut radio said the PLO leadership would resume its contacts with the Lebanese authorities on 28 June in order to achieve final and quick results. After meeting with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and other Palestinian leaders on 27 June, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio that partial and tangible progress had been made.

According to Monte Carlo radio, Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah said on 26 June that any political solution of the current crisis should include the maintenance of the PLO's political presence in Lebanon and the reorganization of its military presence. Hawatimah also expressed indignation at the stand of the USSR. Nevertheless, a 27 June Voice of Palestine radio commentary claimed that the Soviet Union will forcibly prevent any attempt to invade Beirut. The previous day, Yasir 'Arafat received a message of firm Soviet support from President Leonid Brezhnev, according to the radio.

Arab Emergency Conference -- At the Arab foreign ministers emergency conference in Tunis, the Lebanese delegation submitted a paper calling for an end to PLO military activities from Lebanese territory and the removal of the Palestinian military presence, KUNA reported. Demanding that the Lebanese Government be allowed to exercise unconditional authority and sovereignty over all its territory through its army and security forces, the paper also called on the ministers to strongly condemn Israel's aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. Meanwhile, the PLO representative called for an Arab economic boycott of the United States that would include the withdrawal of funds and a rupture in diplomatic relations, according to AFP. An ironic Voice of Palestine commentary on the conference said the Palestinian-Lebanese people are not interested in the meeting, in which the ministers will try hard to select emotional terms from a dictionary with which to phrase their "historic statement."

Noting that the conference is to continue, Kuwait radio reported that the ministers decided to establish a committee which will hold urgent contacts with the UN Security Council.

Lebanese Political Situation, Appeals - Prime Minister al-Wazzan may withdraw his resignation in the wake of appeals from other Lebanese political leaders, including Phalangist Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil, according to Voice of Lebanon radio reports. Meanwhile, Beirut radio broadcast an appeal from President Ilyas Sarkis to leaders of fraternal and friendly states to help in rescuing Beirut from the calamity threatening it. The radio also noted that Al-Wazzan made a similar appeal to Saudi King Fahd, who promised to exert utmost efforts on all levels.

Saudi Message, Reaction -- Saudi King Fahd cabled President Reagan on 25 June, urging the U.S. leader to put an end to Israel's "bestia" invasion of Lebanon and stressing that Israel's actions will have terrible consequences for peace, Riyadh radio reported. The same day, King Fahd told Yasir 'Arafat over the telephone about Saudi Arabia's diplomatic attempts to rescue the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, SPA noted.

A Saudi official expressed "deep regret" over the UN Security Council's rejection of the French draft resolution on Lebanon, which "could have led to positive and effective results" to stop the Lebanese situation from deteriorating, SPA noted.

Mubarak, Ghali Statements -- In a statement to reporters cited by MENA, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak stated that he was "greatly disappointed" at the U.S. veto of a French draft resolution on Lebanon at the UN Security Council. Mubarak asserted that the United States should not have used the veto and observed that when a veto is used by a country, it should have an alternative solution. Mubarak said he has informed President Reagan of his disappointment over the situation in Lebanon. Asked about the status of the PLO, Mubarak said it constitutes a political power in Lebanon and before it leaves there must be negotiations. He warned that the expulsion of the PLO will result in more terrorism in the region, naturally affecting U.S. interests. Mubarak went on to reiterate an earlier announcement that Egypt is ready to accept a Palestinian government-in-exile.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, in a statement to the BBC reported by MENA, demanded the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and Israel's noninterference in Lebanon's internal affairs. Ghali asserted that Egypt will honor its peace agreement with Israel but pointed out that it will be difficult to continue the Palestinian autonomy talks until a solution to the Lebanese problem is reached.

Libyan Warning -- Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi warned the Soviet Union and East European socialist bloc countries, during a meeting with their ambassadors, that the friendship between progressive Arab forces and the socialist countries is passing through "a danger" similar to that facing the PLO in Beirut, JANA reported. He added that this friendship is almost ready to go up in flames.

Reaction to Haig Resignation

According to IDF radio, Israeli political circles have expressed fear of a change in the U.S. position on Lebanon in the wake of Secretary of State Alexander Haig's resignation. The radio cited the political circles as saying Israel should now reassess the situation in Lebanon and possibly speed up all processes in order to lead to a quicker solution of the terrorist problem in Beirut and reach a political settlement before the U.S. administration's approach changes. However, Jerusalem television reported that Israel had received a message from the United States which stresses continuity in U.S. policy on the Lebanese crisis. The radio noted that the message was apparently intended to prevent a lightning action by Israel in Beirut. According to political sources cited by Jerusalem radio, despite soothing words which National Security adviser William Clark asked to be delivered to Israel, no one should harbor any illusions. The sources concluded that Israel will not receive the full U.S. backing in the negotiations in Lebanon it would have received if Haig had remained in his post.

Noting that the Israeli Cabinet discussed the Haig resignation, IDF radio observed that while Jerusalem expressed concern over the possibility of a far-ranging change in U.S. policy, it hoped that it will be possible to carry on a substantive working relationship with Secretary of State George Shultz and that the administration will not change U.S. policy guidelines on Lebanon.

During an interview with journalists, Egyptian President Mubarak speculated that events in Lebanon might be linked to Haig's resignation, MENA reported. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Ghali said Egypt hopes the new U.S. secretary of state will play a more positive role within the framework of a "balanced outlook toward Israeli aggression" against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, Cairo radio reported. The Qatari paper AR-RAYAH reported that diplomatic sources in Cairo have welcomed the appointment of George Shultz. An official Egyptian source cited by the paper noted that Cairo confidently dealt with Shultz when Egyptian-U.S. relations improved during the presidency of Richard Nixon. The source added that relations between the two countries were strained because of Haig and noted that Egyptian and Arab efforts regarding the Lebanese situation were obstructed because of Haig's bias toward Israel. The source concluded by saying he has confidence that under Shultz the United States will reassess its policy and will side with the Arabs or will at least adopt a balanced position between the Arabs and Israel.

Jordanian Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah expressed hope that Haig's resignation would allow the United States to pursue a more balanced policy in the Middle East, Amman radio reported, citing his statement to the Qatari News Agency. However, a Damascus radio commentary concluded that Shultz' appointment would not add anything new to the U.S policy of absolute support to Israel.

Saudi Arabia

In a cable to King Fahd transmitted by SPA on 27 June, Soviet President Brezhnev congratulated the new king on ascending the throne and assured him that steps are being taken in the Soviet Union to develop and enhance Saudi-Soviet cooperation.

Iran

The authorities have uncovered another plot to overthrow the regime, WAKH reported citing ETTELA'AT.

Iraq

The Ba'th Party unanimously reelected President Saddam Husayn as secretary of its Regional Command, INA noted.

Afghanistan

Talks With Pakistan -- At the conclusion of the first phase of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan in Geneva, DRA Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost said the talks are a step toward solving current problems, Kabul radio reported.

Officials Killed -- A rebel-laid mine killed 12 PDPA officials on 14 June, according to the Karachi paper MASHRIQ.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT DECLARES NO SURRENDER TO HABIB

NC261621 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1505 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] In a statement yesterday evening, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat declared that the very fact that Israel and its allies have resorted to the use of tons of high explosives against Lebanese and Palestinian civilians is the best evidence that they are in an impasse, confronted with unprecedented Palestinian and Lebanese steadfastness.

'Arafat added: We have seen many wars and read about many others throughout history, but we have never seen or heard of a war of terror with the intensity of this one. Political terror, psychological terror, military terror -- all directed at breaking Palestinian and Lebanese popular steadfastness and bringing the Palestinian and Lebanese people to their knees.

He concluded: What will come after this vicious war being fought on so many levels? It was crowned by the arrogant and constant presence of U.S. envoy Philip Habib at the B'abda Presidential Palace, trying to impose an American dictate. We can say one thing: This will not be allowed to happen, and the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist gun will never be surendered to Philip Habib.

'ARAFAT GRANTS INTERVIEW TO LEBANESE NEWS AGENCY

NC270708 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed that the war being launched against the Palestinian-Lebanese people has not and will not achieve its aims, and that those who stand behind this war are characterized by utmost barbarism.

In an interview with the Lebanese news agency, Brother Abu 'Ammar added: I am optimistic, because I know my revolution and my people. He said: Our fighting rifle will draw the map of this area and its borders.

Regarding the atmosphere of military battle, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: The battle is now proceeding on the path of consolidating the heroic and magnificent steadfastness in favor of the Arab and international liberation movement and in favor of the nationalist cause. The confrontation of the barbaric Zionist invasion, which is planned, backed and financed by Washington -- with this solid willpower will shake the table, and not in favor of the liquidationist, and those plotting designs in the area.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said: Let the world come and see the picture of destruction, ruin and death the Zionist U.S.-made aircraft have carried out against innocent and peaceful citizens, and let the world conscience decide and act to put an end to this barbarism and rash policy. Brother Abu 'Ammar added: I am always optimistic, because I know my people well and I know my revolution. No power, however great, can subdue this people and this revolution, to blackmail them and prevent them from achieving their aspirations.

In reply to a question, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: I always speak about the revolution and not about the state. I speak about the victory that will be achieved by the steadfastness of the Palestinian-Lebanese rifle and the steadfastness of the Lebanese-Palestinian people. Despite all the exaggeration and destruction, despite the psychological warfare and despite all the pressures, I say I am not pessimistic and have never been pessimistic.

Regarding the outcome of the war on the political level and the Lebanese political setup, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: The splendid and stunning steadfastness of the Lebanese-Palestinian people will most certainly bear its fruits at a later period. We are making history in the area. In fact, our fighting rifle is drawing the map of this area and its borders through its steadfastness and its successive victories against this Zionist invasion and against the whole weight of the U.S. military war machine.

Concluding his interview with the Lebanese News Agency, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: The enemy has not and will not achieve any of his aims in this war. The war against the Lebanese and Palestinian people is unjust and dishonorable, and those who stand behind it are characterized by barbarism, savageness and racism. This war will frustrate their aims -- just as wars have frustrated aggressive aims in the past -- in the face of the steadfastness of our fighting rifle until our Palestinian Revolution and people have achieved the final and inevitable victory.

KHALID AL-HASAN REJECTS ISRAELI PROPOSALS

NC272052 Paris AFP in English 2033 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Riyadh, June 27 (AFP) -- A senior member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation said here today that the PLO categorically rejects Israel's offer to allow Palestinian forces safe passage out of Lebanon under International Red Cross protection.

In a statement to be printed in tomorrow's edition of the Kuwaiti daily AL-ANBA', Khalid al-Hasan, a member of the PLO Executive Committee who is currently in Saudi Arabia for top-level talks, said the PLO, "with all the courage displayed up until now, categorically rejects Israel's proposals." The PLO, he said, "will not give in to Israeli blackmail and will fight to the last man," adding that Jerusalem's offer was made with the arrogance of an occupation force which believed it was militarily superior and was faced by an Arab vacuum. Any acceptance of the Israeli propositions was tantamount to accepting Israeli's occupation and its attempts to rule over the Arab nation, he said.

PLO RECEIVES U.S. PROPOSALS VIA FRANCE, INDIA

NC260944 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0830 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] The PLO leadership received, through the French Foreign Ministry, important proposals from the U.S. State Department yesterday evening concerning the situation in Beirut. Our correspondent has learned the Palestinian leadership will meet to study these proposals and will reply to them today. The Palestinian leadership received a similar message from the Indian Foreign Ministry on the same subject.

MONTE CARLO RADIO INTERVIEWS SALAH KHALAF

JN252150 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2040 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Telephone interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, identified as Abu Iyad, by Monte Carlo radio correspondent Nabil Darwish, carried on the "Panorama" program -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] Brother Abu Iyad, there have been many developments inside and outside Lebanon today. In the United States, Alexander Haig has resigned. Do you think his resignation is related to these developments?

[Answer] It is obvious Haig favored the Israeli operation from the beginning. I think the friends of the United States in the region feel so embarrassed that they might take certain actions which could harm U.S. interests. The United States has sacrificed Haig because he was responsible for the Lebanese situation. However, this does not change the fact that the U.S. President and his entire administration are responsible for what happened.

[Question] Let us return to the Lebanese developments. After the resignation of Walid Junblatt from the National Salvation Council today, Prime Minister al-Wazzan announced his resignation. These events are by no means unrelated to the events in west Beirut. What caused these developments?

[Answer] From the first day we agreed to convince some nationalist members to take part in the Salvation Council. We were aware this demand was a U.S.-Israeli demand. However, in order to ease the issues and in order that no one would say the Palestinians wanted Beirut bombed -- and, that due to their behavior and stubborness, the people of Beirut would be exposed to death -- we agreed to convince some Lebanese nationalist leaders to join the Salvation Council. However, when Brothers Walid Junblatt and Nabir Barri joined the council, they noticed there was a movement in the Lebanese regime in favor of Israel's entry into Beirut.

[Question] Many people are urging the Palestinians to work toward avoiding the destruction of Beirut. What have you done for Beirut?

[Answer] We have done what I just told you: facilitated the tasks of the Salvation Council despite our knowledge that it was founded upon a U.S.-Israeli demand. We made three offers. We suggested the Israelis withdraw a few kilometers, the Lebanese Army should then enter Beirut and we would be confined to our camps. This offer was rejected. We said we were ready to accept a Lebanese army, without an international emergency force, to disengage the Israeli forces from the joint forces. This offer was also rejected and was answered today with heavy shelling. They asked us to give our opinion on the nature of the Palestinian presence -- both the armed and unarmed presence -- after the Israeli withdrawal. He gave it in writing to the prime minister last night. The prime minister, Walid Junblatt, Nabih Barri and even Minister Marwan Hamadah agreed to this proposal and said: you have offered everything. However, all these offers and concessions were not enough because there is a U.S.-Israeli decision reached with certain sides of the Lebanese authorities that Beirut and those living in it must be destroyed.

[Question] Yesterday, there was a telephone conversation between Yasir 'Arafat and Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil. What happened during this conversation, and how do you evaluate the Phalangist Party attitude?

[Answer] What happened was that Al-Jumayyil asked that the Salvation Council meet with a Palestinian Resistance delegation. The prime minister came and asked us: Do you agree? For the sake of Beirut and its inhabitants we agreed, despite our knowledge that part of the Phalangists deals with the Israelis and cooperates with them in policy, media and operations. However, at the meeting yesterday, Fu'ad Butrus and Al-Jumayyil were absent.

[Question] Do you now believe that Israel, for instance, is trying to abort any possible meeting between Bashir al-Jumayyil and Yasir 'Arafat?

[Answer] Everyone should make his own decision.

[Question] Today, Abu Iyad, Damascus announced its withdrawal from 'Alayh to other defensive lines. How do you assess the Syrian stand?

[Answer] I believe the Syrians have fought well. Some military withdrawals do not affect the situation as a whole. Forces can withdraw from one place to reinforce their presence in another. Honestly speaking, they fought heroically in the mountains with the joint forces.

[Question] The Arab foreign ministers will meet in Tunis on Tuesday to prepare for an Arab summit that will discuss the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. What do you expect from the Arab diplomatic heads, Abu Iyad?

[Answer] First of all, I think this is ridiculous. The invasion took place more than 20 days ago and they did not think of meeting. They are still waiting until Tuesday to meet. I do not attach any importance to these meetings. It has been proven to us with clear evidence that many of those Arabs are conspiring against us as well as against the revolution and the Lebanese forces. Therefore, I do not like to comment on this meeting and I do not pin any hopes on it.

[Question] Pending the convocation or results of this meeting, France undertook an initiative. What luck awaits this French initiative?

[Answer] I think the French initiative is a good one. It can be the key to solve the current Beirut crisis. However, it seems there are members of the Lebanese Government which oppose even this initiative. The French stand was prominent and is appreciated by every Palestinian and Lebanese citizen.

[Question] Once again we ask you about the stand of the Palestinians' Soviet ally. What is the Soviet stand?

[Answer] I am pained by their stand. I still say I do not understand the Soviet Union's stand.

[Question] What about Brezhnev's message which reached Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] this evening?

[Answer] It is a good message written with goods words, but all this is insufficient. What is important is real action.

[Question] Do you think there are Soviet pressures regarding the Haig story?

[Answer] I think Haig is a victim offered to some pro-U.S. Arabs to tell them that he alone is held responsible.

[Question] Can you sum up the present situation in Beirut politically and militarily?

[Answer] Militarily, today Beirut was pounded from the air, land and sea. No house was left unhit. All hospitals are full of the wounded and martyrs. I do not think history has witnessed such a pounding as today's in Beirut. As I told you, no house escaped damage.

[Question] Do you think Israel will try to enter?

[Answer] I wish it would enter without shelling the civilians so that it can meet our men.

[Question] Do you think it will enter?

[Answer] I expect it to enter.

[Question] You expect it to enter, then?

[Answer] Of course I expect it to enter, because this severe and violent bombardment is the bombardment of one who wants to enter.

[Question] Perhaps tonight, then?

[Answer] I do not know the exact time. It may hit stronger tomorrow. General Sharon thinks that by striking and shelling he can destroy the fighters' morale. However, this new Nazi does not know that our youths and fighters cannot be frightened by these strikes. On the contrary, these strikes increase their solidarity and defiance.

[Question] Is there any shelling now?

[Answer] It stopped about 1/2 hour ago.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES BREZHNEV REPLY MESSAGE

NC260916 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0830 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] On the level of political and diplomatic activity, Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday evening received a message from Soviet President Comrade Leonid Brezhnev in reply to the personal and urgent message Brother Abu 'Ammar sent yesterday morning. In his message, the Soviet president emphasized the Soviet Union's firm stand on the side of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in this ordeal in the face of the [word indistinct] Israeli invasion.

VOP ON 'ARAFAT-KING FAHD TELEPHONE CONTACT

NC260940 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0830 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] spoke last night to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia on the telephone.

They discussed the situation, developments and the savage aggression to which Beirut is being subjected by the rancorous and barbaric Zionist army. He thanked his majesty's interest and personal followup of the situation to confront this treacherous aggression.

King Fahd had earlier contacted Brother Abu 'Ammar and informed him of his country's firm and principled stand toward the Palestinian people and their just cause, led by the PLO, their legitimate and sole representative. King Fahd also conveyed to Brother Abu 'Ammar the concern of his government and the Saudi people and his constant followup of the situation in Lebanon, particularly in Beirut. King Fahd pointed out that he is in constant touch with world leaders on this fateful issue.

VOP COMMENTS ON ALEXANDER HAIG'S RESIGNATION

NC261010 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0853 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] To hell with you, General Haig. You have met your inevitable fate and your Nazi policy has been shattered on the rock of the steadfastness of the Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian fighters. The joint forces, the heroes of Amal and the heroes of the Syrian forces are today, through their legendary steadfastness, creating the appropriate facts which will inflict defeat on all neo-Nazis, wherever they are.

The Lebanese and Palestinian fighters are the hunters of generals. Gen Yequti'el Adam was killed at the hands of the Damur heroes. Now General Haig has dropped from the helm.

One general remains and we have a date with him: General Sharon. We shall bury in Lebanon all his dreams and illusions and all his fascist, Nazi and racist policies. Here is the rock of freedom, steadfastness and resistance. Here is the graveyard of generals.

WAFA COMMENTS ON HAIG'S RESIGNATION, POLICY

JN261030 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Commenting on Alexander Haig's resignation, the Palestinian News Agency, WAFA, said Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has lost an ally who used to back him up in the scorched earth policy in Lebanon. WAFA added that Sharon's policy is exactly the same as that of Haig, who yesterday advised the PLO, through several [Lebanese] ministers pressured by Israel, to surrender unconditionally. WAFA concluded by saying Haig had resigned but the PLO and its allies are holding their positions.

ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN TUNIS 26, 27 JUNE

To Discuss Invasion of Lebanon

JN251932 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1924 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] SANA has learned the Arab foreign ministers will hold an urgent meeting at 2100 tomorrow at the Arab League head office in Tunis. SANA has also learned the Arab foreign ministers will tackle a persisting and urgent mission confined to facing the bestial Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Ministers Expected To Attend

LD261026 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0948 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Tunis, 26 Jun (KUNA) -- A senior official at the League of Arab States General Secretariat informed KUNA today that the league's General Secretariat has received "positive" replies from most of the Arab foreign ministers expressing their readiness to attend the emergency conference to be held here tonight.

The official, who asked his name not be revealed, expects the foreign ministers of Lebanon and Libya will be the only two not to attend. The senior official at the secretariat expects that Lebanon will be represented by its ambassador in Tunis and its permanent representative to the Arab League Husayn al-'Abdallah at the emergency conference of Arab foreign ministers to be held later today.

Klibi Remarks

LD270752 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] The Arab foreign ministers are to resume their work at 0900 today.

The Arab League general secretary stressed that the Zionist enemy would not have continued his aggression and had it not been for the political and military support the receives from the United States despite the international community's indistinct]. Chedli Klibi called on Arab countries to adopt practical steps to confront the brutal Zionist aggression. He said: The Zionist plot seeks to wipe out the Palestinian people and (?burn) Lebanon, a matter requiring the Arabs to confront this plot with all their resources and by uniting their ranks. He also expressed hope that the Arab foreign ministers would adopt (?unified) and practical decisions in order to challenge the annihilation of the Palestinian people and the occupation of Lebanon which should remain unified and maintain its sovereignty over the whole of its territory. [words indistinct]

Lebanese Working Paper

LD271244 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Tunis, 27 Jun (KUNA) -- Today Lebanon demanded that Palestinian military action finally cease in Lebanon, that "the PLO military activities from Lebanese territory be halted, that the armed military presence be removed, and that the Lebanese Government be enabled to exercise unconditionally its authority ad sovereignty over all Lebanese territory through the Lebanese Army and the Lebanese security forces."

The working paper submitted by Lebanon's delegation has demanded that the Arab foreign ministers' emergency conference back Lebanon "with all (?that would help) the implementation of Security Council Resolutions Nos 508 and 509 calling for a cease-fire and (?the complete) withdrawal of Israel from Lebanese territory." The working paper has also demanded "support for Lebanon at international gatherings and all pressure [word indistinct] to be applied to ensure the implementation of the Security Council resolutions."

In the working paper it submitted at the second meeting of the emergency conference of Arab foreign ministers, Lebanon has demanded "strong condemnation of the Israeli aggression against the people of Lebanon and its territory and against the Palestinian people and their cause, and that the attention of international public opinion be drawn to the gravity of this aggression and of its consequences to security and peace in the region."

KUNA has learned that the Palestinian delegation to the conference of Arab foreign ministers now is preparing a paper in response to the contents of the (?aforementioned) Lebanese paper.

Informed sources here have mentioned that there is [word indistinct] among the Arab foreign ministers' circles to form a delegation from among them for the purpose of convincing the kings and presidents [word indistinct] to hold an emergency summit conference as soon as possible. These sources have expected this committee to be set up at the end of (today).

The conference adjourned at 1100. The conference is expected to reconvene at 1400 today, 1300 GMT

Khaddam on Plane Losses

JN271148 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Tunis, 27 Jun (INA) -- The second session of the Arab foreign ministers emergency meeting ended here this afternoon.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian delegation head, in attempting to justify the Syrian regime's failure, admitted there is a breach in the Syrian Air Force and air defenses as a result of the presence of U.S. aircraft more sophisticated than AWACS, which can jam airplanes, rader and missiles, has a range of 250 miles and can monitor 250 air targets.

In an attempt to draw sympathy, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said his regime lost 100 fighter planes in clashes with the Israelis. He explained that there are five Syrian divisions in Lebanon for seven Israeli divisions.

Qaddumi Calls for Boycott

NC271350 Paris AFP in English 1327 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Tunis, June 27 (AFP) -- Faruq Qaddumi, chief of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's Political Department, today called for an Arab economic boycott of the United States as Arab foreign ministers resumed their special conferences on the Lebanese crisis, conference sources said.

They said Mr Qaddumi denounced Washington's support for the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and called for an economic and financial boycott which would include withdrawing funds from the U.S. He also asked Arab nations to break off diplomatic relations with Washington.

Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam expressed similar views, the sources said. (Observers said that although the use of the "oil weapon" against the U.S. and other states supporting Israel was not openly called for in the PLO and Syrian demands, the threat is there below the surface.)

Lebanon, meanwhile, was expected to submit a memorandum to the conference including a call for condemnation of the Israeli invasion and for an end to all armed Palestinian presence in Lebanon.

Eight Arab foreign ministers of the 22 countries that comprise the Arab League are present here today. The other countries are represented by their ambassadors or permanent panArab organization delegates. Libya has said it would not participate in the conference.

Algerian Minister Speaks

LD280059 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Excerpt] During the extraordinary session held at Arab League headquarters at the PLO's request, Arab foreign ministers decided to form a limited committee to be charged with following up implementation of the Security Council's resolutions.

The Arab League secretary general expressed satisfaction with the proposals put forward by the Algerian and Syrian foreign ministers, which will be submitted to the restricted committee. The conference also pressed for a concerted Arab effort to secure the lifting of the siege from Beirut and the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

The Arab foreign ministers agreed to coordinate their efforts and to consult with friendly states to secure implementation of the UN resolutions, especially the one demanding Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon that was vetoed by the United States.

Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, who headed the Algerian delegation to the conference, affirmed Algeria's readiness to carry out any concerted actions manifesting the Arab masses' anger and denunciation directed at Zionist expansion and the annihilation of the Palestinian people.

Dr Ibrahimi said the matter requires collective and unreserved condemnation by the Arab world of the unconditional U.S. support for the Zionist aggressor in the military, political and diplomatic fields, support which appeared in the strategic aggreement and went as far as the overt veto of the resolutions put forward to the Security Council.

In the name of Algeria, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi rejected all analyses appearing here and there that were aimed at eradicating the Palestinian issue. He once again forcefully affirmed that the essence and crux of the Middle East issue is the Palestinian problem.

At the end of his speech, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi called on all Arab governments to forget their differences and stand as one front in the face of the threats of imperialism, and to give unconditional support to all fighters of the Palestinian, Lebanese and Syrian people.

27 June Session Ends

LD271824 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Excerpts] The Arab foreign ministers who began their meetings in Tunis yesterday have agreed to suspend their current meetings for the moment, and to consider this extraordinary conference as in permanent session. At the conclusion of a session held this afternoon, the ministers agreed to set up a six-state ministerial committee in addition to the General Secretariat of the Arab League, whose mission consists of having urgent contacts with UN Security Council permanent member states to ensure the carrying out of Security Council Resolutions No 508 and 509 concerning a cease-fire and the withdrawal of Israeli invasion forces from Lebanese territory.

The (?political affairs) committee, which consists of the foreign ministers of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Algeria, Syria and the PLO, in addition to the General Secretariat of the Arab League, will undertake a study of proposals and working papers, and submit them to the member states. The committee will hold its first meeting the day after tomorrow, Tuesday, in order to fix a new date for the resumption of conference work.

Lebanon and the PLO submitted working papers during the second conference session. The Palestinian paper carried a demand that support be extended to the resistance; that the latter be enabled, materially and militarily to perform its role; that Arab ambassadors be withdrawn from America; that American companies be boycotted and assets withdrawn from American banks.

Kuwaiti Departs for Sofia

LD272322 Kuwait KUNA in English 1732 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Tunis, June 27 (KUNA) -- Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad left for Sofia this afternoon at the onset of a European tour.

Shaykh Sabah attended an emergency Arab foreign ministers' conference held in the Tunisian capital to discuss the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The foreign minister is accompanied (by the director) of his office Suleyman Majid ash-Shahin and director of the Arab League sector at the ministry Khaled al-Jarallah. Other members of the accompanying delegation (?include) chairman of the board of directors at the petrochemicals industries company, 'Abd al-Baki an-Nouri, director of the protocol department at the Foreign Ministry Ahmed 'Abd al-Wahed al-Ayub, director of the international affairs at the political department Khaled al-Babtain and 'Abdallah Saud al-'Abd ar-Razak from the economic department.

Shaykh Sabah's tour will take him to Bulgaria, Greece and Czechoslovakia.

KUWAIT

'ABD AL-AZIZ HUSAYN ON GEORGE SHULTZ, LEBANON

LD271512 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1406 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Jun (KUNA) — Kuwait Minister for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn has praised the Palestinian Resistance's stand in confronting the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, and said: It is a stand which has amazed the world and contains great meaning for Arab citizens everywhere.

Regarding the appointment of George Shultz as U.S. secretary of state upon Alexander Haig's resignation, he said: The new minister is better acquainted with and has wider knowledge of the region's political affairs; he has visited it and worked in it and the corporation he headed has enormous interests in the Arab region.

Commenting on the meeting held by foreign ministers of eight Arab countries in Tunis he said: We are hoping they will take collective decisions suitable in light of events in Lebanon and in light of international leanings, which have become quite clear, especially since the United States used the right of veto against the French draft proposal to the UN Security Council.

Regarding the possibility of using Arab oil to force Israel to withdraw from Lebanon, he said: This is among the issues the Arab foreign ministers will discuss. He said despite the glut in the international market, [world indistinct] the Arabs must use whatever weapons they possess if circumstances require it.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM ON HAIG RESIGNATION, EUROPE

GF271220 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 27 Jun 82 p 1

['Abdallah al-Qaq report]

[Text] A ministerial source has said the resignation of U.S. Secretary of State Haig will not affect U.S. policy in the Middle East after the U.S. administration used the veto against the French proposal to neutralize Lebanon. The source affirmed that the U.S. stand is against the Arab nation and its will and against recognition of the Palestinian people's issue.

The source told AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM: The truth is that Haig was Israel's strongest supporter. His view was that Israel should continue to sweep Lebanon and then determine the appropriate steps to take against the PLO which, according to him, constitutes "remarkable extremism" and prevents the stability the United States is seeking in the region to implement the Camp David accords.

The source noted that if the United States does not change its attitude toward the Lebanese crisis, its interests will be in jeopardy in the future.

Diplomatic sources told AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM that some Arab countries, including Saudi Arabia, have exerted great pressure on the United States to reconsider its policy toward the continued Israeli invasion of Lebanon. They said the European stand has embarrassed the United States, particularly since France and Britain have called for an end to the extreme U.S. bias on the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. What is required now is a unified Arab stand.

The Foreign Ministry received a report from the Kuwaiti ambassador in Washington yesterday about Haig's resignation and the U.S. administration's stand toward the contacts currently being held to stop the fighting in Lebanon.

OMAN

'MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING' SIGNED WITH U.K.

GF271511 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] A memorandum of understanding between the Sultanate of Oman and the United Kingdom was signed at the Foreign Ministry today. The memo provides for the formation of a joint committee to discuss overall issues of mutual interest in bilateral relations.

The memo noted the lengthy friendship between Oman and the United Kingdom. The governments of the two countries expressed their desire to preserve continued and efficient cooperation in the political, cultural and economic fields out of their awareness of the importance of the consultations between the two sides to benefit mutual interests.

An official source at the Foreign Ministry told the radio correspondent after the signing of the memo of understanding, that the governments of the two countries will hold regular consultations to discuss and expand bilateral relations, discuss international issues and to coordinate between the two countries. The source said the two sides agreed to form a joint committee to discuss international issues which concern them; political, economic and industrial cooperation; expansion of trade relations; and cooperation in the fields of education, culture, emigration, information media and health. The meetings of the two sides will be held on ministerial level or between senior officials, alternately in Muscat and London.

The memorandum was signed on Oman's side by Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs. On the British side, it was signed by the British ambassador to Oman. The signing ceremony was attended by Haytham ibn Tariq ibn Taymur, head of the European, North and South Americas Department at the Foreign Ministry.

QATAR

RADIO VIEWS U.S. SECRETARY HAIG'S RESIGNATION

GF261535 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Following a special meeting on the current situation in Lebanon yesterday, U.S. President Reagan relieved in a dramatic and tragic way his secretary of state, Alexander Haig. Why was Haig relieved? Was he responsible for U.S. policy in the region? Did the U.S. administration realize it is following a wrong policy in Lebanon and does it want to correct this by relieving the person who executes it?

Those who think the U.S. secretary of state is the one who shapes the foreign policy of the United States are mistaken. Policymaking in the United States is a long process that begins from the CIA on the basis of a number of reports and analyses of all the concerned sides and their possible actions and reactions, and passes through the various committees of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. All that is made in the framework of U.S. economic interests. U.S. foreign policy is shaped by the U.S. industrial establishments in general and the military-industrial circles in particular.

The secretary of state is nothing more than a person who is r. sponsible for carrying out foreign policy plans after being provided with the necessary preliminary material, and is only allowed to add beauty to some of this material. Alexander Haig's resignation is nothing more than a new U.S. trick in which Haig was the victim and sacrifice. It is a late process aimed at beautifying the ugly U.S. face in the Middle East after the U.S. role in the Zionist invasion of Lebanon has been revealed. It is also an attempt to relieve the U.S. administration of that invasion's crimes by blaming Alexander Haig. This trick was made at this specific time due to the new French initiative proposed to the UN Security Council because the United States will not allow France to pick up the pieces of its mistakes in the Middle East, will not allow France to enter this region from the American door and will not allow it to act as a substitute friend for the peoples of the region after the U.S. administration has plotted against them.

Alexander Haig's resignation is the first step toward aborting the French initiative in the Security Council, especially since it had been accepted by the PLO and welcomed by the Arab countries, headed by Saudi Arabia. The U.S. administration does n ot want to give French President Mitterrand the opportunity to correct his mistake which occurred when he visited the Zionist entity despite Arab protest at that time. The U.S. administration also does not want to involve itself in political confrontation with France, which represents the real gravity in the European alliance, on which the United States relies in its confrontation with the Soviet Union. U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's resignation is a disgraceful beautifying process, which will not be the last in the series of U.S. tricks. Haig's head is the first installment the United States has paid in the price of its mistakes against our Arab nation.

AR-RAYAH CALLS FOR PRESSURE ON U.S. GOVERNMENT

GF271600 Doha AR-RAYAH in Arabic 27 Jun 82 p 1

[Editorial: "New Proposals or New Maneuvers?"]

[Text] At the same time U.S. President Ronald Reagan announced he was relieving Secretary of State Haig from office or accepting his resignation, the PLO announced it received new U.S. proposals it described as important that deal with the current situation in Beirut.

Although we are disinclined to quickly judge events and their future developments, the two concurrent announcements can be linked. To link Haig's dismissal from the State Department and from direct influence over U.S. policy in a way that its fragile balance was lost, the wheel of Israeli aggression will undoubtedly open the way for the new eventuality of a reassessment of U.S. policy toward the Arab-Israeli conflict with the absence of the total Zionist domination which used to color Haig's thinking, conduct and various theories.

During has last year of work, Haig became Israel's strongest advocate and most vehement defender. He succeeded to a great extent in making U.S. policy completely contradict the Arab policy, particularly the policies of Arab countries that have amicable relations with the United States.

Haig also succeeded in puffing up the heads of the Israelis, not only with pride, but also with a military outburst and racist aggressiveness. He encouraged them to stretch their claws -- especially Ari'el Sharon -- to the Arab body and to dig them into the flesh of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

Therefore, we believe the Israeli invasion of Lebanon was a logical result of this evil alliance Haig established between Washington and Israel. No doubt this alliance is an old one, but Haig's strong support and encouragement for terrorist Begin and his ministers plunged the aggression into a steep precipice that has involved not only the Arab-Israeli conflict, but also U.S. interests all over the Middle East.

If we imagine Haig's dismissal from office has made Israel lose an intimate friend, as Begin himself said, this means the U.S. administration has become aware of the acute dilemma in which its resigned secretary of state placed it, and consequently the U.S. administration has to reconsider its calculations and change its Middle East policy before it loses control and loses everything.

Although it is rash to predict the United States will reasonably and proportionately rearrange its calculations, we must be aware of the firm fact on which U.S. policy has been based during the past 30 years: Israel, the protection of its security and perpetuation of its existence is the cornerstone of U.S. policy, regardless of the name of the U.S. President and regardless of whether the ruling administration is Republican or Democrat.

Accordingly, it is a grave mistake to pursue the delusion that Haig's dismissal means a coup in U.S. policy. Rather, it is reasonable to know that U.S. policy toward Israel is firmly rooted, but that it can be subject to minor amendments that might forge a balance between its strategic interests and the dangers the Nazist Zionism is trying to involve it in.

We do not doubt for a moment that the Palestinian Resistance's command will carefully study the new and important proposals the U.S. State Department has conveyed to it and will then issue a decision, because it is responsible for doing so. However, what we call for is to strike immediately while the iron is hot and that Arab countries should first find a unified policy -- even if a minimum policy -- to steadfastly confront Zionism. Secondly, the Arab countries which have distinctive relations with the United States must pressure the Reagan administration to force it to restore the lost balance, using all their available political and economic potentials.

Once again we ask: Shall we strike while the iron is hot?

SAUDI ARABIA

KINGDOM EXPRESSES 'DEEP REGRET' OVER UN VOTE

LD262214 Riyadh SPA in English 1948 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] At-Ta'if, June 26 (SPA) -- Saudi Arabia tonight expressed "deep regret" over the rejection of a draft resolution submitted to the U.N. Security Council yesterday on Lebanon.

A government spokesman commenting on the ıtcome of voting on the resolution said the kingdom had been following up with great interest voting on the draft which "could have led to positive and effective results to stop the serious deterioration of the situation in Lebanon and re-establish security and stability in the country."

The draft had called for the disengagement of Israeli troops and Palestinian forces in Beirut and for the despatch of U.N. observers to the Lebanese capital.

The spokesman expressed full confidence that the withdrawal of the "invading and aggressive force from Lebanon will undoubtedly enable the Lebanese and Palestinian leaders to draw up the appropriate solutions to establish peace, restore normal life and pave the way for an understanding between the Lebanese and their brethren."

He affirmed that Saudi Arabia would "continue to do its utmost on various levels to resolve the Lebanese crisis and safeguard the integrity of the Palestinian and Lebanese brothers."

KING FAHD, YASIR 'ARAFAT SPEAK ON LEBANON

LD252312 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2240 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Jun (SPA) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat spoke to His Exalted Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on the telephone and explained to his majesty the developments in the situation in Lebanon and the barbarous extermination of the Lebanese and Palestinian people by the Zionist enemy.

His majesty expressed to Mr 'Arafat his concern for putting an end to what is going on in Lebanon. His majesty also told Mr 'Arafat about the telephone contacts his majesty has made with Arab leaders for rescuing the Lebanese and Palestinian people from the Zionist invasion. His majesty also affirmed once more the unchanging stand of the kingdom and its support for the Palestinian cause and for placing all its potentials in the service of the struggle of the Palestinian and Lebanese people and for strengthening Arab solidarity concerning the Zionist invasion of Arab territory.

SPA CITES BREZHNEV CABLE TO KING FAHD

LD271428 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1354 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Jun (SPA) -- His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has received the following cable from Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev:

"His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, monarch of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Riyadh

"Please accept my congratulations on the occasion of your being installed as monarch of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Be assured that steps are being taken here in the Soviet Union to develop and enhance cooperation between our countries in the interest of the Saudi and Soviet peoples and for the realization of real peace and justice in the Near East, and to reciprocate cooperation with understanding."

KING FAHD SENDS CABLE TO REAGAN 25 JUNE

LD252302 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2230 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] We have just received this news item: His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz sent a cable tonight to His Excellency U.S. President Ronald Reagan in which he urged him to end Israel's bestial invasion of Lebanon. His majesty stressed that what Israel is doing will have terrible consequences for peace in the region and the entire world.

MUBARAK 'DISAPPOINTED' BY U.S. VETO, STAND

JN261539 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jun (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has stated he is greatly disappointed by the U.S. veto against the French draft resolution on Lebanon at the UN Security Council. The president said the United States should not have used the veto and when the veto is used there must be an alternative solution.

Answering questions by reporters after meeting with police chiefs today, Mubarak said he is disappointed over the current Lebanese events and he has informed President Reagan of his disappointment and told him that the Lebanese situation will lead to disaster. The following is the text of the statement:

When asked whether he has received a reply to the message he sent to President Ronald Reagan, President Mubarak said: The reply has not arrived yet.

Asked whether Alexander Haig's resignation came as a result of events in Lebanon or to personal differences with Caspar Weinberger, President Mubarak said: Events in Lebanon could be the reason behind Haig's resignation. However, as I said earlier, if the situation in Lebanon continues as it is now, it will lead to a state of instability and constitute a threat to the entire region. Furthermore, it will harm relations between the region and the United States, with whom we want to maintain good relations.

Asked whether he has had any recent contacts with the Palestinians, President Mubarak said: No comment. Replying to a question on whether Egypt has already sent the aid Lebanon has requested, President Mubarak said: I don't believe the Red Cross transported this aid.

When asked his reaction to Secretary Haig's resignation, President Mubarak said: I have nothing to say about this subject, because I have not received any confirmation of or any further details on the subject.

Asked whether he is disappointed by the U.S. veto against the French draft resolution regarding Israeli aggression against Lebanon, President Mubarak said: Yes, I am very disappointed. The United States should not have vetoed this draft resolution. When someone uses a veto, it means he has an alternative solution. When asked whether he is disappointed at the U.S. stance on what is taking place in Lebanon, President Mubarak said: Of course I am disappointed. I told President Reagan this.

On whether he feels the Americans have let him down despite his friendship with them, the president said: We have friendly relations with the United States, and I express my feelings to them frankly.

The president was asked whether there has been any progress on the situation in Lebanon, particularly since there have been frequent U.S.-Egyptian contacts on the issue, and whether any progress has been made regarding the expulsion of the PLO from Lebanon. He said he does not agree that the PLO must leave Lebanon unarmed, because this will lead to instability in the entire region. President Mubarak added that the PLO constitutes a political power in Lebanon, and before it leaves Lebanon, the PLO must have some negotiations. The expulsion of the PLO, the president explained, will result in a catastrophe and in more terrorism in the region. This will naturally affect U.S. interests in the region.

Replying to a question on what he announced earlier on Egypt's readiness to receive the PLO, President Mubarak said: I said I am ready to accept a Palestinian government-in-exile. I did not say the entire PLO can come to Egypt. I think a Palestinian government-in-exile will help the Palestinians resolve many of their problems. Future U.S. efforts through the autonomy talks could also help them.

Asked whether he is satisfied with the present status of negotiations regarding the situation in Lebanon, the president answered: Do you mean the PLO's expulsion from Lebanon, unarmed and without any negotiations? The journalist answered: Yes. The president then said: No, I do not agree.

GHALI CALLS FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON

JN271614 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] London, 27 Jun (MENA) -- Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has demanded the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory and Israel's noninterference in Lebanon's internal affairs. In a statement to the BBC's Cairo correspondent, Ghali warned that the Israeli aggression against Lebanon has affected and threatened the peace process in the Middle East. He said Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai gave Egypt hope that other Arab states would join the peace process. Unfortunately, the Israeli aggression against Lebanon is an aggression against the peace process itself. It is very difficult to convince any Arab state to negotiate with Israel in view of the current situation, Ghali added.

Ghali also said practical steps taken by Egypt vis-a-vis this situation include mobilizing international public opinion and attempting, through the United Nations, the United States -- a full-fledged partner in the peace process -- and the EEC countries, to reach a speedy solution to the crisis resulting from the Israeli aggression, and to realize an immediate Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in order to resume the peace process. Ghali asserted that Egypt will honor its peace agreement with Israel but pointed out that it will be difficult to continue the Palestinian autonomy talks until a solution to the Lebanese aggression has been reached. Ghali answered in the affirmative when he was asked whether Israeli aggression will disrupt the autonomy talks. Answering a question on whether Egypt had played the role of mediator between the PLO and other parties concerned with the Lebanese problem, including the United States, Ghali said the word mediator is an exaggeration; what Egypt did was transfer letters among various parties. He expressed the opinion that this is considered Egyptian diplomacy's contribution toward a solution to the Israeli aggression.

MUHYI AD-DIN RECEIVES U.S. ENVOY, REGRETS VETO

JN271556 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Cairo, 27 Jun (MENA) -- Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din has asserted the Egyptian people's wrath over events in Lebanon and their complete sympathy with the Palestinians and Lebanese. Dr Muhyi ad-Din also expressed Egypt's sorrow at the United States' use of the veto against the French draft resolution on Israeli aggression.

During his meeting with U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton in Cairo today, the prime minister underlined the importance of starting the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue previously proposed by Egypt. The two sides discussed the deteriorating situation in Lebanon and Israel's continued siege and shelling of Beirut. The U.S. ambassador briefed Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din on efforts being exerted by the United States to reach a solution to the situation in Lebanon. During the meeting, which was attended by Donald Brown, director of the Agency for International Development in Cairo, and which lasted about 1 hour, [words indistinct] cooperation between Egypt and the United States in various [words indistinct] fields. It was suggested that other meetings be held between the [words indistinct] to continue this cooperation.

GHALI HOPES SHULTZ TO PLAY 'MORE POSITIVE ROLE'

NC262031 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that Egypt hopes the new U.S. secretary of state will play a more positive role within the framework of a balanced outlook toward what is really taking place in the Middle East and toward Israeli aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

MUBARAK SENDS 'URGENT' MESSAGE TO REAGAN 25 JUNE

NC252034 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2019 GMT 24 Jun 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jun (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak sent an urgent letter to U.S. President Ronald Reagan this afternoon. In his letter, President Mubarak requested that the United States intervene with all its weight to prevent Israel from conducting any military operations in Beirut and to protect the lives and property of its inhabitants. President Mubarak spoke of the grave consequences the area will be exposed to if no urgent move to stop the fighting and bloodshed is made.

DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS ON LEBANON CRISIS CONTINUE

JN261818 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1650 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jun (MENA) -- The Arab Republic of Egypt has resumed its diplomatic efforts to put an end to Israeli aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in Lebanon.

Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today held contacts with Egypt's UN delegate and the Egyptian ambassador to the United States. Dr Ghali asked 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egypt's UN delegate, to take part in the vote on the resolution that will be issued by the UN General Assembly in the coming few hours. It will condemn Israeli aggression and call for immediate Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. Dr Ghali then briefed Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Ashraf Ghurbal on Egypt's stand on the current events in Lebanon and instructed him on the situation in light of Alexander Haig's resignation.

Dr Ghali today received the French ambassador in Cairo and discussed the Egyptian and French stands. Dr Ghali said there is coordination between the Egyptian and French diplomatic moves regarding the means that must be taken to entrench the cease-fire.

Dr Ghali said in the next 2 days the Foreign Ministry will hold contacts with various states to outline Egyptian efforts to maintain the cease-fire, secure an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and ensure the Palestinian people's rights. He added that Egypt will ask various states to support the Egyptian stand and efforts. Ghali explained that Egypt's contacts will begin today and that Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, Foreign Ministry under secretary, will meet with African ambassadors. The Foreign Ministry's under secretaries will resume their meetings tomorrow and the day after with various Asian, Eastern and Western European ambassadors.

CAIRO VIEWS REASONS BEHIND HAIG'S RESIGNATION

JN260900 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 26 Jun 82

[News analysis by Violette Fu'ad]

[Text] Although U.S. President Reagan kept the reason for yesterday's resignation of Secretary of State Alexander Haig secret, there seem to be many reasons behind this resignation. Haig was a party to several disputes with White House officials and members of the U.S. administration.

Haig was always in disagreement with Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. According to press reports, the two men differed on the current U.S. policy of avoiding condemnation of Israel's invasion of Lebanese territory, a policy which has become increasingly controversial as Israel tightened its control over Palestinian strongholds in Beirut.

Weinberger adopted a tougher line against Israel on this matter, while in most cases Haig considered Israel a strategic base. Another reason for the disagreement among U.S. presidential aides are the obstacles which the United States has placed in the way of its European allies' participation in the building of the gas pipeline from Siberia to central Europe.

Haig was the strongest supporter of the establishment of strong U.S.-European ties. The U.S. decision on tightening the ban on the use of U.S. equipment in the Siberian gas project has adversely affected relations between the United States and its European allies. President Reagan had, after long hesitation, taken this tough line recommended by Caspar Weinberger. The decision was made while Haig was not in Washington.

Press reports also spoke of disagreements between Alexander Haig and William Clark, U.S. presidential adviser on national security affairs, who is considered a confidant of President Reagan. The dispute between Alexander Haig and the White House came out in the open last November when Haig accused a member of the White House staff of waging a campaign against him. Speculations at that time said Haig was referring to Richard Allen, President Reagan's national security adviser, who later resigned and was replaced by William Clark.

PRESS SCORES U.S., ISRAEL, ARABS OVER LEBANON

NC252327 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2228 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jun (MENA) -- AL-AHRAM calls for a responsible Arab rapprochement transcending the political outbidding and (?conflict), one international efforts may center around to contain the crisis resulting from the Israeli invasion of (?Lebanon).

In its commentary to be published in Saturday's edition, the paper affirms that this Arab rapprochement will be the new stance (?the Arab states will head) after in a new direction. The paper says the stance of some Arab states adopting oral stances rather than practical ones impede such rapprochement. The paper points in this regard at the stances of the confrontation and steadfastness states. It warns that there is a last chance for these states to abandon their outbidding and to adopt a [word indistinct], mature and constructive stance void of any outbiddings so that we may be able to salvage what can be salvaged.

In its commentary on the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, AL-JUMHURIYAH criticizes both Israel and the United States. It says Israel has lost (?the reputation it gained) before the world during the peace process and the return of the Sinai and has become like a terrorist group -- not a state -- that relies on (?weapons) to impose its will and does not see any peace other than one through which it can achieve its goals of expansion at the expense of others.

On the U.S. stance, [word indistinct] affirms that (?the United States) has lost the trust of its friends in the area, who have been shocked by the truth of the tremendous Israeli influence in shaping U.S. decisions in a manner going along with Israel's goals and interests regardless of their not being in line with the U.S. goals and interests (?in the area).

CORRECTION TO SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY MEETING

The following corrections should be made to the item headlined "Socialist Labor Party Meets on Lebanon Crisis," published in the 23 June Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT on page D 2:

The subslug [Mahmud Hamid report] should be inserted between the sourceline and the first paragraph. [Supplying omitted subslug]

Paragraph two, lines one and two should read: "...the guests, including Politburo member Mansur Hasan..." [Omitting extraneous party name]

BA'TH PARTY CONGRESS REELECTS SADDAM HUSAYN

JN271920 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1840 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Jun (INA) -- The Ninth Regional Congress of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, which concluded its meeting here today, has unanimously reelected President Saddam Husayn as secretary of the Ba'th Party's Regional Command.

The congress, which met for 4 days, also reelected 'Izzat Ibrahim as deputy secretary of the Regional Command. The congress elected to the Regional Command Taha Yasin Ramadan, 'Adnan Khayrallah Tilfah, Sa'dun Shakir Mahmud, Tariq 'Aziz 'Isa, Hasan 'Ali al-'Amiri, Muhammad Hamzah az-Zubaydi and 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Chafur. Other Regional Command members include Samir Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, 'Abd al-Hasan Rahi Fir'awn, Sa'di Mahdi Salih, Na'im Hamid Haddad, Sa'dun Hammadi and Mazban Khadr Hadi.

The following seven new members joined the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's Regional Command: Muhammad Hamzah az-Zubaydi, 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Ghafur, Samir Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, 'Abd al-Hasan Rahi Fir'awn, Sa'di Mahdi Salih, Sa'dun Hammadi and Mazban Khadr Hadi. Meanwhile the following seven members lost their membership: Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Tahir Tawfiq, 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, Hikmat Ibrahim, Ja'far Qasim Hammudi, 'Abdallah Fadil and Burhan ad-Din 'Abd ar-Rahman.

President Saddam Husayn, Ba'th Party Regional Command secretary, opened the congress with a speech in which he addressed the conferees by saying: In this session and due to the circumstances through which the revolution and great Iraq are passing, you are considered in general the vanguard of the party and the cavaliers of our great people as well as these people's living conscience and voice in the leading position. You are a voice that should not keep silent when situations require you to speak the truth. This voice should also not dwindle when situations call for a loud, clear and strong voice.

President Saddam Husayn defined to the conferees the qualities the Regional Command member should enjoy as represented in greater courage under ordeals than under ordinary circumstances. He said the most important part of courage is the brave decision which is based on absolute faith in the cause of the struggle waged by the party and people regardless of other circumstances.

Addressing the conferees, President Saddam Husayn said: Your party and revolution have offered the people, homeland and nation what has not been offered by an experiment within a relatively short time. The revolution and its party have offered the people what they have not dreamed of within this short period of time.

Regarding party responsibilities, he said: We have to judge the sincerity and efficiency of the party members in the governorates and administrative divisions on the basis of the decrease in the number of enemies of the revolution and party as well as the decrease in negative attitudes among the people in every area. They are also judged by the increasing popular enthusiasm for the revolution and party and the increase in the masses' enlightenment and intellectual and moral strength in accordaanee with the party's principles and criteria in every stage.

When President Saddam Husayn ended his speech, the congress began its work by approving the membership and discussing the central and comprehensive political report submitted by the party's Regional Command. The report, which consisted of an introduction and eight chapters, dealt with the most important basic national and pan-Arab issues, including the internal experiment of the party and revolution during the past years between the eighth and ninth regional congresses. It also dealt with the national and pan-Arab transformation, the comprehensive development, the socialist construction and the social and cultural transformations.

The political report stressed in particular the national and pan-Arab battle being waged by our people against the Iranian aggression and the Zionist and international alliance which stands behind it, in addition to the traitors among the holders of Arab nationality who support it.

The report also contained a concentrated ideological and political study of the attempts made by some suspect quarters to use religion as a cover to peddle the plot against pan-Arabism, the Arab revolution movement and the pan-Arab and international issues and relations.

The Ninth Regional Congress of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party concluded its work in an atmosphere of enthusiasm and profound faith in the soundness of the historical march of the party and revolution and in the inevitability of victory over the Iranian aggression and all forms of plotting and hostility that are aimed against this great national and pan-Arab experiment which was brought about by the party's sincere, honorable and brave struggle.

In accordance with the party's democratic traditions and the party's statutes, the Regional Command held a meeting directly after the congress' and renewed its trust in the historical leader Saddam Husayn. It reelected him secretary and great leader of the party and revolution march. It also reelected 'Izzat Ibrahim deputy secretary.

ARMED FORCES ABIDE BY CEASE-FIRE WITH IRAN

Communique 753

JN251622 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Jun (INA) -- The Iraqi Armed Forces continued to abide by the contents of President Saddam Husayn's speech and the Revolution Command Council [RCC] 10 June statement. A communique issued here this evening by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command stressed that the Iranian forces continued shelling the Iraqi units in the operational sectors, forcing our forces to return fire and silence the sources of fire.

The communique put the Iranian losses at nine killed, a number of captives and the destruction of two vehicles and two guns. Our sacrifices were six martyrs in all sectors. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 753 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The soldiers of justice and principles -- the zealous sons of Mesopotamia -- continued to abide by the contents of President Saddam Husayn's speech and the RCC 10 June statement, while the Iranian enemy's forces continued shelling our units in the operational sectors, forcing our units to return fire and silence the sources of fire. Several enemy groups tried to approach our units' positions in several areas, but our forces repulsed them valiantly and forced them to flee.

The known losses sustained by the enemy yesterday evening and today mounted to nine killed, a number of captives and the destruction of two vehicles and two guns.

Our sacrifices were six martyrs in all sectors.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 June 1982

Communique 754

JN261636 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jun (INA) -- A communique issued here this evening by the Armed Forces General Command said that despite the Iraqi Armed Forces' abidance by the cease-fire, the Iranian enemy continued its activities and shelled the Iraqi units in the operational sector, thus forcing the Iraqi forces to return fire and silence the sources of fire.

The communique indicated that the Iranian enemy tried to throw in groups of its personnel in an attempt to approach the forward Iraqi positions in several areas. However, the Iraqi forces confronted them with various weapons and forced them to flee.

The communique put the known enemy losses for yesterday evening and today at 11 killed and 1 vehicle, 1 boat and 2 personnel positions destroyed. Our sacrifices were five martyrs in all sectors and one vehicle damaged. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 754 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The sons of great Iraq continued to abide by the contents of President Saddam Husayn's speech and the Revolution Command Council's 10 June statement. Meanwhile, the Iranian enemy continued its aggressive activities against our proud people and used artillery to shell our units in the operational sectors forcing our forces to return fire and silence the sources of fire. The enemy also tried to throw in groups of its personnel in an attempt to approach our forward positions in several areas. However, our valiant units confronted them with various weapons and forced them to flee.

The known enemy losses for yesterday evening and today were 11 killed and 1 vehicle, 1 boat and 2 personnel positions destroyed. Our sacrifices were five martyrs in all sectors and one vehicle damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 June 1982

Communique 755

JN271655 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Communique No 755 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 27 June]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

At a time when our valiant armed forces continued to abide by the contents of President Saddam Husayn's speech and the Revolution Command Council's 10 June statement, the Iranian enemy continued its aggression against our steadfast country. The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today were as follows:

1. Our units in the operational sectors came under an enemy artillery barrage and were forced to return the fire, silencing the sources. An enemy group tried to approach our units' positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our heroic fighters confronted it and forced it to flee.

The known enemy losses for yesterday evening and today were five killed and a number of wounded. Our sacrifices were five martyrs in all sectors.

2. At 1100 today, the enemy shelled our border post in the Zurbatiyah area with heavy artillery. The shelling continued until 1400.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 June 1982

MINISTER, PRESS WELCOME HAIG'S RESIGNATION

Information Minister Comments

JN271752 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah has stated that regardless of the reasons behind Alexander Haig's resignation and its prompt acceptance by President Ronald Reagan, it is hoped this resignation will remove one of the obstacles which may have prevented the United States from pursuing a more balanced Middle East policy.

In a statement to the Qatari News Agency published today, Abu 'Awdah said: We hope Haig's resignation will be the beginning of the rectification in the Middle East policy of the United States which seems now, under the shadow of the savage Israeli aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, incapable of defending itself from the moral and humanitarian views and unable even to defend its interests.

The minister said: We will definitely remember that during Haig's era, Israel attacked the Iraqi nuclear reactor, bombed Beirut's populated centers, invaded Lebanon and besieged Beirut. During this era, Israel continued to receive the most lethal U.S. weapons and to use them in all its aggressions against its neighbors with the aim of imposing its policy on these neighbors.

JORDAN TIMES Editorial

JN260833 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 26 Jun 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Good-bye, Mr Haig"]

[Text] The departure from the political scene of Mr. Alexander Haig as the United States' secretary of state augurs well, not only for us in the Middle East but for all peace-loving nations in the world.

Without begrudging the man personally, we, like countless others on the right, left or centre, resented his policies as wrong at best. Mr. Haig, we were daily reminded, could lead us to the brink of war and destruction as if no alternative really existed.

Today, Israel is launching a barbaric war against a people which is only aspiring to a homeland and to restoring legitimate rights that have been usurped and constantly denied by a fascist regime led by Menahem Begin. Today, this militaristic regime is doing every thing in its power to exterminate the Palestinians and bury them, along with their cause. In this Mr. Haig thought there is an opportunity to correct the situation in Lebanon, and he acted accordingly. Against the cries of every civilised human being, the former secretary of state blessed Begin and his war of genocide in Lebanon. Not a word of condemnation could even be uttered in Washington, because Mr. Haig did not want to offend his good friend Begin.

Good-bye Mr. Haig, and farewell to your catastrophic policies. Your friends in Israel will no doubt miss you and deeply regret your departure. But here in the Arab world, our immediate concern remains how the U.S. and specifically your successor, Mr. Shultz, will go about repairing the damage you inflicted on U.S.-Arab ties through supporting the aggressor.

REPORTAGE ON ISRAELI INCURSION 25-27 JUNE

Israelis Shell Hospital

NC251730 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1716 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] We have just received the following report: The hospital for the elderly, near the sports stadium, has received direct hits from Israeli shells. Part of the hospital has been destroyed and many of the patients being treated there have been killed or wounded. The hospital houses 800 patients and has 250 employees.

Roundup of 25 June Fighting

NC251844 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1720 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] The shelling intensified after 1730 [1530 GMT] and Israeli aircraft, warships and artillery successively bombarded certain parts of west and south Beirut. The strong explosions, particularly the explosions in the ammunition dump in At-Tayyunah, caused concussions affecting all of Beirut and the At-Tayyunah suburb. The bombardment continued this evening against the areas of Abu Shakir, the Arab University of Beirut, At-Tariq al-Jadidah, Corniche al-Mazra'ah, Qasqas, Al-Hursh, the martyrs cemetery and the camps of Al-Fakihani, Shatila, Sabra and Al-Awza'i. The shells from the warships off Beirut fell on the line from the Riviera and passing through Bain Militaire, Ar-Rawshah, UNESCO, Al-Janah and up to Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda', the sports city and the airport perimeter. As for losses, they cannot be assessed under the falling shells and amidst the clouds of smoke and sand covering the areas that have been hit as well as nearby areas. Fires have broken out everywhere.

As for the positions in the mountain, they were not in a worse situation than Beirut and its suburbs. There the aerial bombardment and artillery shelling continued from before noon and throughout the afternoon. Syrian forces have withdrawn in stages from the areas of Jumhur, 'Arayya, Dahr al-Wahsh, Al-'Abbadiyah, 'Alayh and Ba'l Shumayl through Ra's al-Matn, (Faluha), Kafr Silwan and (Duhur Zahlah). Another Syrian battalion with six tanks withdrew from Al-Mutayn and Al-Muruj toward 'Ayntura. Israeli aerial bombing this afternoon concentrated around (?Al-Hawsh) and (Al-Masatih) on Al-Mutan's outskirts. Some citizens in 'Alayh reported that 8 Israeli tanks and 16 mechanized troopcarriers, 7 personnel carriers and 15 trucks were seen after 1700 moving toward the township of 'Alayh. It is worth noting that strong explosions are continuing in the ammunition dump located behind the Al-Bitar building in At-Tayyunah. Palls of smoke cover the areas of 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, Badaru and Furn ash-Shubbak and the smell of gunpowder is spreading in the area.

Israeli forces, backed by the air force, have managed to advance from Bhamdun toward 'Alayh and Dahr al-Wahsh. Syrian forces estimated at 1,500 soldiers have withdrawn from 'Alayh with some of their equipment. Israeli forces advancing from Jumhur have met with the forces advancing from 'Alayh in a bid to tighten their control of the area. The Israelis are stationed in the Syrian positions around Jumhur, (Tallat ar-Ramad) and [name indistinct] and set up a roadblock on the outskirts of Al-Kahhalah from the direction of 'Arayya.

Syrians Deploy SAM-6 Missiles

NC252029 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2021 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] The latest security report says Syrian reinforcements have been seen on the Ba'labakk-Al-Hirmil axis, including new SAM-6 missile bases [qawa'id].

Israeli Forces Combing 'Alayh

NC252050 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Israeli forces have entered 'Alayh and have been combing the area since 2000 [1800 GMT]. They exchanged fire with certain armed people, who have been detained by the Israelis. Another Israeli force has been stationed on the approach to Suq al-Gharb and Al-'Ubaydiyah to reconnoiter the area following the complete withdrawal of Syrian forces.

Lebenese Forces, Army Deployed

NC252042 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2025 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] The Lebanese forces today deployed into the Jumhur area, specifically from Afyal factory up to Al-Kahhalah, after the Syrians withdrew from their positions. It has been learned that this measure has two aims: 1) To put the internal situation under control and return life to normal in the area; and 2) To pave the way for the Lebanese Army to take over the area later.

A Lebanese Army combat unit [al-mukafahah] has been stationed along the Jumhur road up to Afyal factory.

A responsible source in the Lebanese forces has denied that the Lebanese resistance participated in the battles for Jumhur, Tallat ar-Riyadh and Al-Kahhalah. He pointed out that these forces were forced to be stationed in the positions of the withdrawing deterrent forces in order to control the internal situation and to facilitate the task of the army if it wanted to take over these areas.

Israeli Leaflets in South

NC251817 Paris AFP in English 1809 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Beirut, Jun 25 (AFP) -- Israel today distributed tracts in Southern Lebanon urging residents to turn informer for the Israeli Armed Forces in exchange for a "generous reward", according to a copy obtained by Agence France-Presse. The tract also warned that "extremely [word indistinct] sanctions" would be taken against anyone who withheld information on "Israeli hostages" in the region.

"Citizen," the tract said, "if you are in a position to supply information concerning the terrorists (Palestinian militants) and the prisoners they are holding hostage, you will receive a special reward from the Israeli Armed Forces." It said Israel had "broken the terrorist infrastructure" and was now working to rebuild and restore life to southern Lebanon. The Israeli army had said earlier that no harm would come to Palestinian militants who turned themselves in.

"The Israeli Armed Forces expect the [words indistinct] residents of every village and town in southern Lebanon," the tract concluded. "Citizen, help us so we can help you."

Sidon Losses Estimated

NC252104 Paris AFP in English 2036 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Beirut, Jun 25 (AFP) -- An International Committee of the Red Cross representative in Sidon, southern Lebanon, today said the number of dead in the Israeli occupied territory was much higher than the 450 reported by Israeli Premier Menahem Begin. He said the figure given by Mr Begin accounted only for bodies identified and buried in common graves.

There were still large numbers of victims trapped under demolished buildings, he said, adding that the Lebanese Red Cross in Sidon had come up with an initial estimate of 10,000 "dead or wounded."

An Agence France-Presse correspondent in the southern Lebanese town saw a large number of unclaimed corpses either trapped in wreckages of steel and concrete or strewn along the beach. The smell of decomposing bodies wafted around the Palestinian refugee camp of 'Ayn al-Hulwah, just south of Sidon, which was partially destroyed by Israeli air attacks, then razed by bulldozers.

'Arafat Tells PLO To Cease Fire

NC260551 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Excerpt] During the night, [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam received a number of personalities and leaders as well as Yasir 'Arafat, whom Salam informed of Habib's contact. As a result, 'Arafat instructed the Palestinian positions to cease firing.

VOP on Shelling, Casualties

NC260914 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0830 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Statement issued by the joint forces Central Command military spokesman on 26 June]

[Text] The Zionist enemy yesterday continued to tighten its land, naval and air seige of Beirut. Throughout Thursday night and since yesterday morning, Friday, enemy aircraft savagely bombed Beirut and its suburbs, aiming at the residential quarters in Berj al-Barajinah, the airport traffic circle, the Kuwaiti Embassy area, Ar-Ramal al-'Ali, Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda', Harat Hurayk, Al-Ghubayri, the Sabra camp, Shatila, the Al-Fakihani area, Tariq al-Jadidah, Al-'Amiriyah vocational school, Bi'r Hasan, the sports city, Al-Hursh, the martyrs cemetery, Al-Awza'i, Al-Barbir, Al-Maqasid and the Islamic old people's home. As a result of this barbaric bombardment, many buildings were destroyed.

The enemy's raids were carried out simutaneously with a mad and merciless naval and ground bombardment from heavy long-range artillery. This shelling was directed at Ar-Rawashah, the beach cottages, Ar-Raml al-Bayda' and the camps. The number of casualties among the civilians yesterday rose to 2,000; the estimate of casualties resulting from the barbaric bombardment during the past 2 days was another 2,000, bringing the total until now to 4,000 killed and wounded -- all innocent civilians. A large number of women and children are still under the rubble. The hospitals, which came under indiscriminate shelling, are suffering from a shortage of blood. Many of the people whose houses were destroyed are roving aimlessly, without shelter. Despite all this barbaric bombardment by the Zionists, the first aid and rescue teams are carrying out a humanitarian and heroic role, trying to evacuate the casualties despite the intense air attacks and the internationally banned shells. Emergency committees are also carrying out an effective and important role in the areas to give shelter to citizens whose houses were destroyed and to give them urgent aid.

The blind Zionist hatred against the Palestinian and Lebanese people and their valiant fighters has reached the point in which the enemy aircraft fired heavy rockets at the martyrs graves, causing big craters and destroying the martyrs graves. This criminal and shameful enemy action only increased our determination and insistence on achieving victory. Glory and immortality to our blessed martyrs.

Syrians Fighting in Tripoli

NC261320 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Excerpts] The security situation was calm today in the axes of Beirut, the suburbs and the mountains but was tense in the areas of Al-Malluli and As-Suwayqah in Tripoli because of armed clashes between the Syrians and the Tripoli popular resistance.

Both sides exchanged machinegun and rocket fire. Last night the Syrians tried to return to positions they had left a few days ago in Al-Malluli and As-Suwayqah but were stopped by the Tripoli popular resistance. The clashes were renewed this morning and are still continuing up to this hour.

In Beirut, Palestine Liberation Army men have appeared on Al-Barbir road and have established a barrier in a position used by the Syrian deterrent forces. At 1230, [1030 GMT]. the armed Palestinians opened fire for the purpose of intimidation in the area of the military court. They also closed the road between the two areas of the capital by iron barriers. The Beirut-Sidon road in the area of Ash-Shuwayfat was closed by Israeli forces this morning and it has remained closed up to this hour.

Tripoli Clashes Continue

NC261922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] The security situation in still grave. This is because the clashes have continued among armed organizations in the Bab at-Tabbanah and Ba'l Muhsin areas. Security information from the northern capital states that there are a number of dead and wounded and that extensive property damage has been sustained.

'Arafat Tours West Beirut

NC270710 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday inspected civilian locations in West Beirut that had come under Zionist ground, air and sea bombardment. Brother Abu 'Ammar visited the headquarters of the Independent Nasirite Movement -- Al-Murabitun -- and met with Brother Ibrahim Qulayat, the movement's chairman, and a number of its leaders and cadres. The meeting was attended by Brother Abu Mahir al-Yamani, member of the PLO Executive Committee.

VOP Warning on Cluster Bombs

NC270741 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0658 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] The joint forces Central Command military spokesman has warned all citizens not to move or to (?search) in the places whice were subjected to the bestial Zionist bombing, saying that there are a large number of cluster bombs which did not explode. The spokesman added: The cluster bombs dropped on the residential quarters in Beirut are those whose shape is round. They explode if they are moved. Therefore, caution must be maintained while searching or digging in the debris.

Israelis, Syrians Reinforced

NC271313 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] The Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces today continued reinforcing their positions amidst the calm that prevailed in Lebanon since the cease-fire the night before last. Military vehicles have been seen, loaded with soldiers and equipment, moving from Jumhur toward the areas around 'Alayh, Bhamdun and Sawfar to reinforce their advanced positions opposite and Syrian forces in the areas of upper Al-Matn. Other huge concentrations of these forces, reinforced with soldiers, vehicles and equipment, were seen in the areas of Khaldah, Ash-Shuwayfat and Kafr Shima. Other military convoys were seen on the Sidon-Ar-Rumaylah-Ad-Damur road toward An-Na'imah and Khaldah.

Our military correspondent who toured the area says Israeli warships are landing troops along the coast from Tyre up to Ad-Damur. It seems that the operation is a rotation of forces. He adds that huge Israeli trucks have been moving the arms and ammunition confiscated from the Palestinians into Israel since morning. The correspondents accompanying the Israeli army were struck by the huge number of equipment that the Palestinians left behind. Southern Lebanon appeared to have been a storehouse for ammunition and various kinds of weapons.

PLO Documents, Forged Passports

NC271401 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Our correspondent says that during the night printing machines and boxes full of counterfeit dollars were withdrawn from the combat school on the airport road. The dollars, estimated in the millions, were put in a hole and destroyed. The boxes also included forged passports of a number of Arab and foreign countries. Sabotage experts, who undertook training in the combat school, were moved to buildings located in the Ar-Rawshah area. These experts belong to international organizations.

The Voice of Lebanon has received information that the Palestinians tried to destroy the documents in the PLO planning center. Some of these documents fell into the hands of certain Lebanese organizations. These documents point out that as of August 1982, Lebanon would be the substitute homeland for the Palestinians and that a Palestinian government would be declared in Lebanon. The documents also speak of Palestinian weapons, their whereabouts, type and value. The documents estimated Palestinian arms at tens of billions of dollars.

Israeli Leaflets in Beirut

NC271228 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1220 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] We begin our newscast with this report that just arrived: Israeli aircraft at 1405 [1205 GMT] dropped leaflets over western Beirut calling on the citizens to make use of the cease-fire and to leave the area. The leaflets also say that, through their operations, the Israelis aim at Palestinian saboteurs.

'Socialists,' Iranians Clash

NC271612 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Clashes broke out today in Qibbay' between socialists [presumably members of the Progressive Socialist Party of Walid Junblatt] and Iranian volunteers. The clashes continued until 1400 [1200 GMT] and then became intermittent.

The town came under artillery fire this afternoon. Losses are not known yet.

Beirut Car Bomb Kills 3

NC271800 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] A boobytrapped car was detonated at 1705 [1505 GMT] today in Beirut in front of the French radio building, opposite the Information Ministry. Three persons were killed and 20 wounded. Ambulances and fire engines rushed to evacuate the wounded and extinguish the fires.

According to information available to Voice of Lebanon, the explosion was meant to kill the Palestinian leaders, including Yasir 'Arafat, who were passing in the street following a meeting with Prime Minister al-Wazzan and other ministers in the (?Ministry) of Tourism.

The boobytrapped car was a Renault 5 bearing license plate No 474186. The weight of the explosive charge was estimated at 25 kg of TNT.

VOP on Car Bomb

NC271651 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1620 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] The Phalangist agents and the Zionists have committed a new filthy crime against the inhabitants of west Beirut: A bobytrapped car exploded in the As-Sanai' area of Al-Hamra' this afternoon.

A number of citizens were wounded, and the AFP office in Beirut was damaged. This criminal operation comes in the new drive of the neo-Nazis to strike at the steadfastness of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

Israeli-Syrian Artillery Duel

NC271743 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] The cease-fire did not completely hold this evening. The day would have passed quietly except for three incidents which were reported this afternoon and which have increased the prevailing anxiety.

The first incident was represented by the advance of the columns of Israeli tanks on the Bhamdun-Qibbay'-Ash-Shabaniyah-Hammana road and clashes in Qibbay' between the Socialists and the Iranian volunteers. This evening an exchange of artillery fire occurred between the Israelis in Al-Qurayyah and the Syrians and their collaborators in Hammana. The second incident was represented by a car explosion in As-Sanai' [in west Beirut] which killed 3 persons and wounded 20 others. The third incident was represented by the renewal of clashes in Ba'l Muhsin, At-Tabbanah and Harat as-Sayyidan in Tripoli.

Gunmen Fire at U.S. Embassy

NC272029 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 27 June 82

[Text] This evening, four gunmen in a Peugeot fired automatic weapons and a RPG at the U.S. Embassy building in western Beirut. The gunmen missed their target but wounded two passersby.

PLO REPORTEDLY TO HAND OVER ARMS, LEAVE BEIRUT

JN280425 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0400 GMT 28 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Lebanese Government sources said at dawn today that the PLO had agreed to some of the Israeli proposals announced in Jerusalem yesterday afternoon but still insists on its position that the Israeli forces must withdraw 5 km from their present positions around Beirut.

According to these Lebanese Government sources, the PLO has agreed to hand over its weapons to the legitimate Lebanese Army and to evacuate all its fighters, numbering about 5,000, from the Lebanese capital to another Arab capital by sea, and not by land via the Beirut-Damascus highway as proposed [by the Israeli Government].

Beirut witnessed intensive consultations and contacts last night. According to the same Lebanese sources, the PLO's acceptance of some of the Israeli proposals took place following talks and consultations, which continued until the late hours of last night, between the Palestinian Resistance leaders and outgoing Lebanese Premier Shafiq al-Wazzan and some members of his Cabinet who resigned with him.

These sources affirmed that the Lebanese Government agrees in principle with the Palestinian plan. However, this plan has not yet been communicated to U.S. envoy Philip Habib, who will convey it to the Israelis and then obtain their answer. At any rate, these reports about the PLO's agreement to hand over its weapons and leave Beirut are still mere news agency reports citing Lebanese official sources. The PLO has not yet confirmed them.

WAFA Denies Report

JN280519 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0508 GMT 28 Jun 82

[Text] A statement issued by the Palestinian News Agency WAFA a short while ago says the Palestinian fedayeen are determined to fight the Israeli invaders until victory or martyrdom. The statement affirms that the reports, which cast doubt on the Palestinian's determination to fight, aim at weakening the morale of the Lebanese and Palestinians. The WAFA statement ends as follows: Our decision is one -- victory or martyrdom.

VOF Says PLO Will Not Leave

NC281242 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1225 GMT 28 Jun 82

[Text] Radio Stations and news agencies have reported an alleged Palestinian offer to leave Lebanon. We have one specific word to say about these lies and intrigues: Resorting to lies will never realize what the artillery shelling and aerial bombardment have failed to realize. The leakage of false reports here and there and their exaggeration and the weaving of stories and tales around them will not change the Palestinians' firm and just stand.

The Zionists have closed all doors for a political solution. They kept one door open -- the military door. We are fully prepared. We have given those who are afraid about the fate of Beirut all the facilities and flexible stands they asked for, but this was of no avail. Therefore, when fighting is imposed on us, we will fight most fiercely and strongly. We will smash the head of the Zionist army. No Lebanese can blame us after everything we have offered. Onthe contrary, everyone will stand with us in the battle of honor and the homeland.

Al-Wazzan: Positive Progress

NC280629 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Jun 82

[Excerpts] The atmosphere of anxiety is accompanied by activity on the part of the Palestinian Resistance focusing on finding a solution to the situation on Beirut and a suitable solution to the future political and military presence of the Palestinians in Lebanon. Political circles have spoken about initial positive results which have been achieved on this level. The contacts will be resumed today to achieve final and quick results, knowing that we are in a race with time as Prime Minister al-Wazzan has said.

Early this morning, Israeli radio carried a report about the PLO's agreement to leave Lebanon by sea. This was denied later by a PLO spokesman. The Palestinian News Agency WAFA said the resistance will not lay down its arms and will continue its struggle and steadfastness.

The Israeli report came following information about positive results achieved in the meeting held yesterday afternoon between Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. Some reports said 'Arafat conveyed to Prime Minister al-Wazzan positive proposals yesterday afternoon regarding the ways to deal with the present situation. Prime Minister al-Wazzan said in a statement after his meeting with 'Arafat that there is positive progress in the discussions. He informed President Ilyas Sarkis of his progress during a telephone conversation with him yesterday afternoon.

PLO Source on U.S. Proposals

NC271807 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] It has been reported that an official Palestinian source has asserted that U.S. envoy Philip Habib has communicated to the PLO new U.S. proposals constituting a compromise between the French draft resolution vetoed by the United States and the Israeli conditions for ending the Beirut problem. The Palestinian official described the U.S. proposals as involving positive loosening up.

SALAM QUOTES 'ARAFAT ON NOT FIGHTING ISRAEL

NC271532 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] [Former] Prime Minister [Sa'ib] Salam has told DER SPIEGEL that [PLO Chairman] 'Arafat told him: We will not wage a new war with Israel. Our contacts with it will only be political.

SARKIS APPEALS FOR HELP TO RESCUE BEIRUT

NC272017 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1916 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Appeal by President Ilyas Sarkis to "the kings and presidents of the fraternal and friendly states" on 27 June -- read by announcer]

[Text] In the darkest time of the long tragedy Lebanon has been experiencing for over 7 years now and in the difficult hours during which the Lebanese are holding their breath, anticipating the dangers threatening Beirut with total and deadly destruction, I address this appeal to you expressing a cry stemming from the tormented conscience of a people who are now threatened in what symbolizes their [words indistinct] existence. What the city of Beirut represents is no secret to you, whether with regard to the Lebanese, the Middle East or the world at large -- concepts that are deep-rooted in history and that express democracy, freedom, openness and tolerance. These are the special characteristics of Lebanon's message and its contribution to the development of human civilization.

Undoubtedly, you are aware of the Israeli invasion of Lebanese territory since 6 June. We are now exerting every possible effort to spare Beirut in particular a real calamity which, if it takes place, will remind us of the great calamities that occurred in old and modern history and as a result of which civilizations, which had a motivating effect on the course of the history of mankind, waned. In my desire to preserve the lives of hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians and the humanitarian and cultural landmarks in Beirut, I make an urgent appeal to you to participate with us in rescuing Beirut from the certain calamity that is threatening it.

While wishing from the bottom of my heart that this appeal will meet with your immediate response, I send you my most sincere feelings of respect.

AL-WAZZAN APPEALS TO SAUDI KING TO RESCUE BEIRUT

NC272023 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan this evening contacted His Majesty King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to appeal to him to exert his utmost efforts to check the Israeli aggression and to rescue Beirut from a definite catastrophe as a result of the continuing Israeli aggression. Prime Minister al-Wazzan was given every sympathy by His Majesty King Fahd, who promised to exert utmost efforts on all levels and in all fields to rescue Lebanon from its tragedy, achieve Israeli withdrawal and ward off the dangers threatening Beirut.

BUTRUS CHOOSES DELEGATION FOR TUNIS CONFERENCE

NC261226 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus has formed the Lebanese delegation to the Arab foreign ministers meeting which will be held in Tunis today to discuss the situation in Lebanon. The delegation is led by Lebanon's delegate to the Arab League Ambassador Husayn al-'Abdallah. It includes in its membership Ambassador Butrus Dib and Lebanon's Ambassador to Morocco Dr 'Adil Isma'il. Minister Butrus has sent the necessary instructions to the delegation's leader.

BUTRUS INTERVIEWED ON LEBANESE, ARAB SITUATION

NC261535 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1240 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Interview with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus by unidentified journalists in front of the Presidential Palace in Beirut on 26 June -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Your Excellency, there are fast-breaking developments on all levels. Let us begin with the U.S. veto of the French draft resolution.

[Answer] The U.S. veto of the French draft resolution was no surprise to me. As I have said, we agreed on the French draft resolution in principle. We had our own views on some of its articles because, of course, we agreed to the cease-fire and sought to have it implemented through any means. We are also seeking a disengagement of forces. There are, however, other pertinent aspects that it is foolish to ignore, particularly under the circumstances. Moreover, these aspects are closely connected with other affairs and thus cannot be ignored. Therefore, we had our own views of this draft resolution, and we asked that some clarifications be made. A lack of understanding between the Americans and the French, however, seems to have led to the submission of the French draft resolution in its original form and, consequently, to the U.S. veto. This must not dissuade us from trying again if other avenues are not open.

[Question] What will happen after the cease-fire, in view of your meeting today with U.S. envoy Habib?

[Answer] There are three avenues before us by which we may emerge from our current tragedy, resulting from the Israeli aggression and occupation. There is military confrontation. I believe that everyone agrees that this is impossible not only for us alone but also for all of our Arab brothers. I am speaking of a military confrontation in the proper sense. Naturally, I am not taking into account that there are some Arabs who confronted the aggression and tried to do what they could to resist it. There is also a political option either through the United Nations or through bilateral contacts. We are trying both ways at the same time. We are resorting to the United Nations, the Security Council and other bodies to reach a cease-fire, to end the Israeli occupation and to stop any armed action from and across Lebanese territory, because Lebanon can bear no more for the sake of any cause other than its own. At the same time, we are making bilateral contacts through Philip Habib and other friendly, Arab and foreign countries in order to reach a final solution to the Lebanese crisis, because we are in such a situation that ointments and aspirins will not do. There must be either a radical solution after well over 7 years of suffering or no solution at all. We are facing (?real difficulties) and we must face them courageously and objectively.

[Question] Your Excellency, as you know, the government recently proposed the formation of a National Salvation Council and, as you know, this proposal encountered well known resistance. What do you want to do now?

[Answer] The proposal to form a National Salvation Council was adopted unanimously and did not encounter any resistance. There were differences of opinion regarding the timing and the suitability of various measures under certain conditions. The differences arose over formalities rather than substance. I can go so far as to say there were no differences over substance.

[Question] Your Excellency, on the Arab level, the Arab foreign ministers will convene an emergency conference tonight, and Lebanon has selected its delegation to this conference. What is Lebanon's position?

[Answer] First, I would have liked the Arab brothers to have permitted Lebanon to attend this conference on a ministerial level. They know that a Lebanese official will need at least 2-3 days to get to Tunis.

The Arabs invited us to today's meeting only last night. Thus, it was not possible for me or for any other minister to head the Lebanese delegation. We formed our delegation [words indistinct] and drafted a working paper that our delegation will adhere to and ask that it be implemented. The paper has been drafted in light of the current circumstances, considerations and new developments in the Lebanese and international arenas. I hope the Arabs will realize that the time for outbidding and for evading their responsibilities is gone. If we took some time before agreeing to the convening of an Arab foreign ministers conference, it is because our past experience certainly does not encourage us. Every time we discussed the Lebanese situation with some Arabs, the answer was: Now is not the time for Lebanon. Eight years have passed, and the time has not come. We believe it is high time that the Arabs face our painful situation and give us real help to emerge from it, unless they have decided to sacrifice Lebanon. Anyway, we will not sacrifice Lebanon.

[Question] Your Excellency, Chedli Klibi was invited to Beirut. What about this invitation?

[Answer] I believe time has overtaken this invitation.

[Question] On the governmental level, is there anything new?

[Answer] There is nothing new to add to what I said yesterday. I hope things will proceed (?on a final path).

[Question] Regarding the cease-fire, it has been said it will be permanent, firm and continuous. Has Philip Habib explained these points and the background?

[Answer] Every cease-fire is supposed to be permanent and firm, but Lebanon's experience with cease-fires is that they do not always have the desired result. However, I hope this cease-fire will be better than previous ones.

[Question] Have you any comment on U.S. Secretary of State Haig's resignation? Do you believe it has anything to do with the situation in Lebanon, as reported?

[Answer] This is none of my business. It is not proper diplomatically to comment on the resignation of a foreign country's minister. I believe that his is linked to the heart of U.S. sovereignty and to its foreign and domestic policies. All that I hope is that it will not be a reason to hamper or to worsen developments in Lebanon.

PRIME MINISTER AL-WAZZAN DISCUSSES RESIGNATION

NC251924 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Excerpt] This evening, Prime Minister al-Wazzan explained the reasons for his resignation in a statement which he made a while ago. He said: As I explained in the statement which I made upon leaving the Republican Palace, I have placed my resignation at the disposal of the president of the republic. Furthermore, when I say that I have placed my resignation at his disposal, this signifies my resignation -- and it remains for him to make a decision on it. Naturally, I feel that we are at a time at which I must call on all to adhere to their responsibilities and to perform the dictates of their duty in these extruciating circumstances. However, it is impossible for us -- under any circumstances -- to see ourselves attending successive meetings with international envoys, with ambassadors or with others, or even among ourselves -- as Lebanese -- within the Salvation Council or in the Cabinet, while seeing that a symphony of military escalation, which as a maestro who almost cannot conceal himself, is being played over and around us to impel us to adhere to specific trends.

This is blackmail -- and I have said that I categorically and emphatically reject it. The whole world must know that our people are being killed.

The world is acting as a spectator watching Israel invade this country with its air force, cannon and with all the military weaponry with which it has been supplied. He added: At first, Israel said it had come to carry out an action for peace for its territory. Now, we see Israel invading this and that area and invading well over half of Lebanon's land -- and Israel is now knocking on the door of the capital and it is shelling the capital. Buildings are tumbling and crumbling over the heads of their innocent residents. Israel is carrying out this shelling with the most modern and sophisticated weapons, the likes of which are as yet unknown to others.

They have spoken a great deal about the Nazis. But let the world come here to see how these people -- who are providing the world with a spectacle -- are acting. The United Nations has just contented itself with passing resolutions calling on Israel to cease fire and to withdraw. However, what has the world done over and above this call? We have been abandoned. There is a U.S. envoy making endeavors through efforts which I do not know how to depict. However, we see that while these efforts seem to be exerted for achieving a cease-fire and finding a solution, they at the same time provide Israel with all the potential for continuing with its aggression, for achieving its ambitions and for dictating its conditions on the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

At this phase, we are seeking an agreement with the Palestinians to stop setting forth from our Lebanese territory to carry out military operations and so that the Palestinians will be contented with a political presence, which would restore for the Lebanese authority its full sovereignty over its territory. Yesterday, and before yesterday, we held such discussions and we reached an almost total understanding on these matters. However, we never understand, and I personally as the prime minister and as the representative of the Lebanese and also of a specific group of Lebanese, cannot continue to shoulder and bear responsibility while this shelling continues around us, as if it were pushing us toward taking stances under duress and through terror. Through my stance, I want this world to realize -- and I want the Arab world in particular to know -- that we cannot continue to live in this ordeal, and that they cannot continue to act as spectators watching us, just as they are now doing.

BUTRUS COMMENTS ON AL-WAZZAN'S RESIGNATION

NC251559 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Prime Minister al-Wazzan's resignation followed a series of meetings held by President Sarkis, Prime Minister al-Wazzan and [Foreign] Minister Butrus to hammer out a peaceful political formula to provide an appropriate way out for west Beirut and for saving Lebanon from the Israeli occupation.

U.S. envoy Philip Habib joined the meeting of President Sarkis, Prime Minister al-Wazzan and Minister Butrus. President Sarkis interrupted the meeting to meet with His Eminence the Mufti of the Lebanese Republic Shaykh Hasan Khalid.

Philip Habib had earlier met with Mufti Khalid in the Republican Palace offices. Meanwhile, President Sarkis convened another meeting with Prime Minister al-Wazzan and Minister Butrus. French Ambassador in Beirut, Paul Marc Henry attended part of this meeting.

Upon departing the Republican Palace, the foreign minister answered a question about the U.S. initiative as well as the French initiative through the Security Council. Foreign Minister Butrus said: The French initiative will go before the Security Council. However, the U.S. initiative is functioning outside the Security Council through bilateral and collective contacts. Therefore, the French initiative comes within the Security Council.

He added: We were informed of the French initiative yesterday evening. We met with President Sarkis and Prime Minister al-Wazzan. We evaluated conditions and stances. We accepted the French initiative in principle. Furthermore, we asked that some amendments be made in this initiative in a manner compatible with the interests of Lebanon, with the recent course of events, with the developments of matters and with what should occur so that Lebanon's interest will be ensured concerning the Israeli withdrawal, concerning the liberation of Lebanese territory and concerning Lebanon's recovery of its sovereignty over its territory and its recovery of the freedom of its land and of its decision-making power.

He was asked: What has been the French answer? To which he answered: The amendments that we requested are not sheer amendments in the true sense of the word. Let us say that these are clarifications of the French initiative. Furthermore, our UN delegate will embark on discussions concerning this initiative with the French and with others to secure this initiative with the French and with others to secure this initiative's endorsement by the UN Security Council.

He was told: In the Arab domain, a dispatch has been received about an emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers next Tuesday. What is your stance? He said: They spoke with us concerning a possible meeting of the Arab foreign ministers. We answered this telegram with a stance showing our viewpoint on the meeting. It is up to the Arab brothers -- in light of our demands [Matalibina] and our stances -- to decide whether or not the offered level, and under the present circumstances, the meeting would be useful. We will assume a final stance in light of the answers we receive.

Concerning Prime Minister al-Wazzan's placing his resignation at the disposal of President Sarkis, Minister Butrus said: It is imperative that we understand the psychology of all the officials who are in power under the present circumstances. No one can imagine these circumstances. This is because there is shelling and destruction, and there is also danger as well as procrastination in the negotiations and discussions and blackmail from all sides. All these things force officials to think at these times that it is sounder and better for them to relinquish their responsibilities and to hand them over to others, if the others can produce solutions. I view the prime minister's stance from this perspective -- on the grounds that it implies rejecting shortcomings and other things that could be attributed to him.

Consequently, this stance is connected with the core of Lebanon's interest. I am also confident that His Excellency Prime Minister al-Wazzan will not relinquish his government post from the perspective that he would not help create a vacuum in the present very delicate circumstances. Nothing is easier than evading responsibility. However, Prime Minister al-Wazzan does not figure among those who evade responsibility.

In response to another question, Minister Butrus said: The government is assessing and making all efforts that it can exert at any level to put an end to the tragedy which we are living through and which has gone beyond all imagination, so Lebanon can return to its normal condition in which legitimacy, sovereignty and independence will reign supreme throughout Lebanon, without exception to any areas; and so that the Lebanese man will feel that he is leading a dignified life in an atmosphere of freedom and brotherhood, that he doesn't come under pressure from this or that quarter, and that he deserves to belong to a country called Lebanon. It is imperative that we view the actions of some people under the present critical circumstances from the perspective of emotionalism and inability to control themselves -- vis-a-vis the pressure to which the citizens are being subjected -- particularly the rulers. I appeal to all not to trade accusations under the present hard circumstances, because nothing is easier than doing this. However, they should control themselves and make sacrifices for the sake of the homeland's supreme interest.

AL-WAZZAN URGED TO WITHDRAW RESIGNATION

NC270627 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Excerpt] The freezing of the military operations has made it possible for the officials and politicians to hold further contacts and meetings. President Ilyas Sarkis yesterday talked to Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan by telephone and consulted with him on a number of stands and developments. The efforts with Prime Minister al-Wazzan focused on the issue of the government and the need to reassume the responsibility because the situation is grave and the circumstances do not tolerate a constitutional vacuum.

Yesterday, the prime minister received telephone calls and received many Islamic and Christian spiritual leaders. The most prominent Islamic contacts were from His Eminence the Mufti of the Lebanese Republic Shaykh Hasan Khalid, Deputy Chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, the Islamic grouping and the front for the preservation of the south. He also received a number of ministers, political leaders and people working in the information sphere for the same purpose.

President Sarkis yesterday met with Ambassador Philip Habib in the presence of the foreign minister and assessed what took place at the UN Security Council regarding the French draft resolution on Beirut and its suburbs. The discussion also dealt with the efforts being exerted to find a solution to the situation in Beirut.

Informed political sources said the cease-fire may continue for several days during which discussions will be stepped up to find a way to solve the issue of the Palestinian armed presence in Beirut without exposing the capital and its suburb to a human massacre and the PLO to a political massacre. The same sources think that the basic U.S. and Israeli objective has not changed. The objective is to disarm the resistance and get it out of Lebanon.

Al-Wazzan Might Not Resign

NC271539 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan is expected to visit the B'abda [Presidential] Palace tomorrow in a step that might be a prelude for withdrawing his resignation, especially following the support which he has received from the political leaders who have called on him to continue to shoulder his responsibility.

MINISTERS HAMADAH, JUNBLATT ANNOUNCE RESIGNATIONS

NC251304 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1236 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Ministers Marawan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt in turn have announced that they have resigned from the government and that they do not intend to reverse their decision.

AL-WAZZAN VIEWS CONTACTS WITH PLO, SITUATION

NC271756 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1626 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] We have just received the following report: Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan this afternoon met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Abu al-Walid [Fatah Central Committee member Sa'd Sayil], Hani al-Hasan ['Arafat's political adviser], Nayif Hawatimah [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine leader] and Abu az-Za'im [not further identified]. The meeting was attended by Ministers 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Labban, Khalid Junblatt and Marwan Hamadah.

After the meeting Prime Minister al-Wazzan spoke to newsmen:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, this afternoon you held a meeting with leaders of the Palestinian Resistance. What is the (?result of your meeting with the resistance leaders)?

[Answer] It must be said this meeting was a continuation of the series of meetings which we have been holding, once with the resistance and once with U.S. envoy Philip Habib, in order to achieve bases for solutions through which we will be able to avert more tragedies, invasions or bombing of Beirut. All this is preparatory to more comprehensive solutions that will lead us to the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty over all of Lebanese territory and to the final exit of the Israelis from (?our country).

I have already stated that these matters are not easy. However, we are constantly trying to advance little by little. Whoever marches on the road will arrive at his destination. Now I can say we have made partial and tangible progress, and this requires more contacts here and there. These are the important responsibilities I have agreed to undertake in the interests of my country, my homeland, my city, my capital, my family and those who have been killed everywhere. However, this does not signify a change in the stand I have adopted. I am still assessing this stand despite the contacts and statements made and the meetings that have been held with me -- all of which support us to resume our march as a government. In fact, the matter is not an abandonment of our responsibilities. On the contrary, I have agreed to shoulder responsibility in all circumstances, in the most serious circumstances and during all the difficulties Lebanon has experienced. With patience, faith and hope we have been able to overcome some of these difficulties phase by phase.

However, today we are in an extraordinary and tragic situation. We are being squeezed at the United Nations by vetoes which prevent the international will from seeing light and from being achieved or implemented. Meanwhile, we also find ourselves squeezed by threats, shelling, threats of invasion and the killing of innocent people and the destruction of our buildings on the heads of our relatives. This is the crisis we are experiencing. It is a crisis which the world must consider. Certain action has led to a cease-fire, and we should take advantage of the remaining period of calm to achieve final solutions to a difficult and complex crisis which combines the world's crises. As I have said, our crisis is all the more difficult because we are facing an international conspiracy. [end recording]

NATIONALIST MOVEMENT CALLS FOR CONFERENCE

NC261115 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0915 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Nationalist Movement on 25 June]

[Text] Despite all the positive stands adopted by the Lebanese nationalist rank to facilitate the unification of efforts in face of the Israeli occupation, whether within the framework of the Salvation Council or the government, or on the general political level; and despite the readiness expressed by the PLO to contribute toward a genuine national salvation of Lebanon, the Zionist enemy continued its war of extermination against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples from the land, sea and air, armed by the U.S. political decision. The identification of this U.S. political decision with the Israeli objectives has become apparent.

In view of all of this, there was need for a bold political stand, stressing the nationalists' rejection of any attempt to give legitimacy to a council that was meant to be a council for surrender and to a government that is colluding with the Zionist enemy and its U.S. ally.

While the Lebanese Nationalist Movement registers its appreciation for the decisions rejecting continued participation in any surrender council under the slogan of salvation, and in any authority subject to military and political blackmail being exercised by the rulers of Washington and Tel Aviv, it considers it its duty to announce in these historic moments the following facts and positions:

1. Our people, who are being subjected today to the Zionist invasion, will not be frightened by the Israeli military machine or the arsenal of U.S. arms put at the disposal of the ruling gang in Tel Aviv. National Beirut is standing fast splendidly, and it will continue to fight to defend its dignity, the honor of its people and its sanctities. Its sons will give a splendid example of heroism to the whole world to defeat the enemy and to prevent it from entering the national capital of Lebanon, the capital of the honorable people and the heroes of freedom everywhere. Behind the steadfastness of Beirut today stands all the Lebanese areas which have been occupied by the Zionist enemy or to which it is trying to advance. They are also standing fast, with their masses and their joint forces, in the face of the enemy army, imposing on it a war it has never before witnessed and human and material losses which far exceed the ones it suffered in its previous wars.

Therefore, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement again appeals to all the Lebanese nationalist fighters to intensify their blows to the enemy and to defend every inch of our land under the slogan "Martyrdom or victory."

2. The official silence which the president of the republic and his officials and organs are hiding behind today has become open collusion. No claims of impotence can conceal it, particularly after the matter has reached the point of official Lebanese participation in preventing any international initiative aimed at stopping the Zionist invasion of our country from taking its course on the international level in order to put an end to the highhandedness of the Israeli military on our territory and to the U.S. political highhandedness all over the world.

3. The Lebanese patriots, who consider any official authority colluding with the occupation as politically fallen and refuse to recognize any legal authority that submits to the enemy, announce their absolute rejection of all the surrender terms which the Zionist enemy, supported by its occupation army and full U.S. political support, is trying to impose on our people. National Lebanon today stands as one man in the face of the Zionist military invasion and U.S. political extortion. Irrespective of how long they look, they will not find a person who dares to commit the crime of treason and sign the surrender document. If they find such person, his signature will not be binding on anyone, and it will erased by the collective national and solid will.

4. The Lebanese Nationalist Movement invites the Lebanese nationalist rank, with all its bodies, leaders, personalities and figures to meet immediately in a general, national conference that embodies the legitimacy of the national resistance to the Israeli occupation by all means. In these historic moments, all honorable Lebanese people must shoulder their full responsibility and form a comprehensive Lebanese national front that will struggle by all means to achieve total and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory and for the restoration of Lebanon as a unified Arab, sovereign, free and independent homeland.

DAMASCUS RADIO ANALYZES HAIG'S RESIGNATION

JN261506 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1250 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The U.S. administration has not yet made a clear and definitive statement on the reason behind Secretary Alexander Haig's resignation. However, observers have recalled the reason behind Cyrus Vance's resignation from President Carter's administration -- the failure of the U.S. military operation to free the U.S. hostages in Tehran in April 1980. Through that operation, the United States attempted to stress that its military power was the basis for imposing Washington's political terms. Now the same thing is being done again. The United States calculated that the barbaric Israeli invasion of Lebanon would enable it to impose its political terms on Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinian Resistance within a few days.

After 3 weeks of savage aggression during which all U.S. tools of death and destruction were employed, none of these political conditions was realized. The Palestinian Resistance did not lay down its arms; Syria did not decrease the fierceness of its confrontation of the Israeli invasion; and Lebanon did not yield to the Zionist terms of signing a capitulatory treaty with Israel. If the United States had been able to realize these three conditions, or even one of them, Alexander Haig would not have resigned, the Reagan administration's image would not seem shaken and disunited and the United States would not have fallen into this great impasse that is due to miscalculation and an incorrect assessment.

It seems that the appointment of George Shultz in Haig's place is of great importance in terms of U.S. support for the Zionist entity. In addition to his great position in the ruling Republican Party, Shultz was one of the main advisers chosen by Reagan to draw up his policy, both domestic and foreign, during his presidential election campaign in 1980. Shultz was Treasury and Labor secretary during the Nixon administration and was one of the enthusiastic supporters of the moves to give the Zionist entity all the financial, economic and military assistance it needed during and after the October 1973 war.

Shultz has been described by U.S. papers as being committed to implementing a pro-Israel foreign policy. The famous U.S. journalist Jack Anderson has described him as detesting anyone who supports a moderate U.S. policy in the Middle East.

In any case, Shultz' assumption of the post of secretary of state, if approved by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, will add nothing new to U.S. policy, which renders absolute support to Israel. His appointment at a time when U.S. policy against Lebanon and the Arab nation is failing indicates that the U.S. failure will be repeated, because the steadfastness of Syria and the Palestinian Resistance against the Zionist invasion of Lebanon will create many contradictions within the U.S. administration itself. Haig's resignation constitutes a clear indication and a prelude to the exposure of these contradictions.

DAMASCUS ON CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT IN LEBANON

JN262006 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Israel accepted a firm and stable cease-fire in Lebanon yesterday. This was announced by U.S. envoy Philip Habib. This is not the first time Israel has announced a cease-fire since it began its invasion of Lebanon and its barbaric crimes against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

Israel had previously announced a unilateral cease-fire, and Syria accepted it provided Israel would withdraw completely from Lebanon. Following the Israeli announcement of the cease-fire and Syria's acceptance of it on the basis of a complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon, Israel -- as is customary in its long history with the Arabs and the international community -- violated the cease-fire, committed more aggression, occupied more Lebanese territory and committed more barbaric crimes against peaceful civilians. The Tel Aviv rulers did not even attempt to hide their intention of staging an annihilation campaign against the Palestinians in western Beirut.

Of course, no one trusts the vows and promises of Israel's rulers. No rulers in the world treat charters, laws, norms and treaties with such contempt as the Tel Aviv rulers, and no one expects these rulers to change their behavior and manners. Thus, we must carefully consider the behavior of Israel's rulers, and we must be prepared for all probabilities and the worst expectations.

It is taken for granted that the Tel Aviv rulers accepted the cease-fire not because of good manners or self-satisfaction, but because they were forced into accepting it by situations and circumstances beyond their control. A few minutes before the Israeli decision to cease firing, Sharon was threatening and roaring.

The massive losses suffered by Israeli forces during the fighting with the Syrians and joint forces should not be forgotten. Yesterday, AP admitted that Israeli forces, in their fighting with Syrian forces on Thursday, suffered their largest losses in 1 day since they invaded Lebanon. The international condemnation of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the Israeli crimes against the Palestinian people should not be forgotten. This condemnation can only be equalled by the international condemnation of the U.S. aggression against the people of Vietnam. One can even say that the foreign reaction to the aggression was stronger than the Arab reaction, with few exceptions of course.

One should not forget the stands of the countries that have influence and that have worked quietly against aggression and toward forcing the aggressors to stop their aggression. One should also consider the resignation of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who greatly contributed to the preparation and implementation of aggression and to collusion with Begin to continue the military action against Syria and western Beirut. One should also consider the uproar in Israel and the increasing opposition to the escalating, aggressive and criminal war, particularly in view of the increasing human, material, moral and political losses. The rulers of Israel were forced to accept the cease-fire. However, there are no guarantees they will not violate it and embark on new aggressive adventures.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES POLISH PARTY DELEGATION 27 JUNE

JN272129 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad today received a Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] delegation led by Comrade Miroslaw Milewski, Politburo member and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee. Comrade Milewski conveyed to the president greetings from Comrade Jaruzelski, PZPR secretary general and chairman of the Council of Ministers. The president thanked him and asked him to convey cordial greetings to Comrade Jaruzelski and the friendly Polish people.

Comrade Milewski expressed satisfaction with the talks he held in Damascus and his appreciation of Syria's struggle against imperialist and Zionist schemes and its confrontation of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. He expressed Poland's solidarity with Syria's just struggle. He also extended an invitation from Comrade Jaruzelski to President Hafiz al-Asad to visit Poland. The president accepted the invitation and promised to visit in the future.

REACTION TO SECRETARY OF STATE HAIG RESIGNATION

Foreign Ministry Spokesman

TA252007 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2003 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] In Jerusalem, the Foreign Ministry spokesman has reacted [to Haig's resignation] by saying that Israel regrets Alexander Haig's resignation. In reply to a question by our correspondent Arye Golan, the spokesman said Israel respected Haig as an outstanding statesman and a loyal friend of Israel.

Moda'i, Eban Statements

TA252259 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2210 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Political sources in Jerusalem this evening termed U.S. Secretary of State Haig's resignation a severe blow to Israel. In the few official reactions voiced this evening the speakers merely expressed their regret. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports:

[Begin recording] [Golan] At this time, there are few reactions in Jerusalem to the U.S. secretary of state's resignation. First they want to analyze the reasons for the resignation, which are as yet unknown, and gather information about George Shultz, the new secretary of state.

Minister Moda'i told us tonight: The resignation is not a good omen for Israel, but it must not depress us.

[Moda'i] As far as Israel is concerned, our reaction is one of regret. There is no doubt that through the positions he adopted Haig understood the importance of the State of Israel and its moves for the United States in its capacity as a superpower as well as the significance of Israel in the region. I am not sure that others saw eye-to-eye with him and I am not sure that his successor will see eye-to-eye with Haig about the development of affairs.

[Golan] Moda'i voiced his own thoughts on the circumstances leading to Haig's resignation.

[Moda'i] It may be that the resignation is related to the position Haig wanted the United States to adopt at the UN Security Council scheduled, I believe, for tonight or tomorrow morning at the request of France and in which France will submit a proposal concerning the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Beirut area along with the replacement of the Lebanese force with UN observers -- and I emphasize the United Nations -- and sanctions against Israel if it does not abide by the resolution expected to be made at the Security Council. It seems to me that Haig's policy in his capacity as secretary of state has been that each time a resolution is coupled with sanctions it is countered by a U.S. veto. Perhaps, in the wake of developments or because the proposal was raised by France, the President did not accept Haig's position and Haig regarded it as another hardship in the series of hardships he has had in persuading the President to accept his approach and position.

Generally, I believe Haig's resignation is not a good omen for us, but under no circumstances should this event depress us.

[Golan] Former Foreign Minister and Alignment MK Abba Eban has also reacted with regret to the resignation. At one time, Eban met the new secretary of state.

[Eban] I know the new U.S. secretary of state, Mr Shultz. He came to my house once when I was the foreign minister. He visited Israel when he was a Cabinet secretary in the Nixon administration. I was also very impressed with his friendly attitude. These were all the contacts I had with him when I was foreign minister. However, it is hard to tell to what extent Shultz's appointment involves personal changes or [word indistinct]. As for policy, I am not ready to elaborate on this possibility at this stage. [end recording]

Peres Interview

TA252034 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2010 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres interviewed on telephone by 'Adi Talmor -- live]

[Text] [Question] Good evening, Mr Peres.

[Answer] A very good evening.

[Question] In your opinion, how will Alexander Haig's resignation affect U.S.-Israeli relations, especially concerning the war in Lebanon?

[Answer] It is clear that Haig is a great friend of Israel's and an appreciable supporter of the latest moves. I assume, although we do not have full details yet, that the resignation is not just for personal reasons. It involves, beyond the shadow of a doubt, a change in policy. I do not think it will make things easier for us, although I do hope Shultz will continue his friendship. This is very difficult to know.

[Question] In your evaluation, has Israel now lost its main advocate in the U.S. administration for decreasing the pressure on Israel?

[Answer] I think we have lost a main friend -- I do not want to say the only one -- but undoubtedly the main friend in a key position, a decisive one. This will leave its mark.

[Question] Would you say the steps Israel has taken over the last few days, the latest steps in the war, were coordinated with the United States? Is this the root of the resignation?

[Answer] I am not sure. I do not know, and I am not prepared to guess.

[Question] The question arises: Why? If Haig really was involved in such a prolonged dispute with his colleagues in the administration -- for the entire war -- why was it just now that Haig resigned?

[Answer] I do not want to speculate. We have heard what Weinberger had to say, and we have heard what happened in the Senate, so it is not difficult to guess that there is also a completely different view in the United States today. We must take this into account, just as we should have taken into account the affect of the events on U.S. public opinion and the affect of public opinion on U.S. officials. We will wait another 30 minutes and hear.

[Question] Mr Peres, who is George Shultz? Does the Shultz appointment presage the beginning of U.S. pressures on Israel and a change in line, in an extremist way?

[Answer] Let us begin with the positive. George Shultz, personally, I think, has had an attitude toward Israel [has, generally used in the positive sense] although I believe he represents a different line from Haig's. However, I would not immediately attack him.

I think we should give him credit and we must hope the policy will continue. I propose that we not jump to conclusions before it is time.

[Question] How, in your opinion, should the Government of Israel regard Haig's resignation? Should Israel take another line in its approach....

[Answer] Israel's Cabinet, in my opinion, should meet at once and do some soul-searching.

[Question] Soul-searching on the Lebanese issue?

[Answer] In our relations with the United States and in any case about the implications of the moves in Lebanon.

[Question] MK Peres, thank you very much.

[Answer] You are welcome.

Rabin, Ben-Elisar

TA260928 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] The Israeli political community is not rushing to react to the reshuffle in the U.S. State Department leadership. Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i told us yesterday that this is not a good sign for Israel but it must not daunt us. The chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, told us this morning that policy is not determined by one man, as important as he may be.

[Begin Ben-Elisar recording] It is too early to react in an orderly manner. After all, one should know more details about the events there and how they came about. In any event, it is always worthwhile remembering that U.S. policy is not determined by a single man, certainly not the secretary of state. We are talking here of interests and a policy which is first and foremost decided by the President. Personal style and personal contributions certainly play a role, and these may be different [following Haig's resignation], but in general I would be very cautious and not react in an unequivocal manner. Matters may change to a certain extent but the basic lines usually do not change. [end recording]

Yitzhaq Rabin told us this morning that Haig's resignation is somehow connected to the disagreements within the U.S. administration regarding developments in Lebanon.

[Begin Rabin recording] I assume that Haig's resignation was for several reasons. It was known in the past that he did not see eye-to-eye with some of President Reagan's closest advisers. His resignation now carries a significance which cannot be ignored; namely, to one degree or another his resignation is connected with the internal argument within the U.S. administration regarding U.S. policy on events in Lebanon. Nevertheless, I got to know George Shultz well during my term as Israel's ambassador to the United States. During the 4 years in which he served in various positions in the Nixon administration he was very close to Israel and a friend of Israel. Given his civilian preoccupations, his opinions may indeed have changed later. At the same time, my experience with him was very positive. [end recording]

JERUSALEM POLITICAL SOURCES ON HAIG RESIGNATION

Astonishment, Concern

TA260710 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0615 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker -- recorded]

[Text] Just as in Washington, Jerusalem last night was also struck with astonishment. Haig's resignation has aroused concern among political circles but at this stage the questions exceed the known details. It is not clear whether the Middle East situation caused the resignation but it is feared that U.S. policy on Lebanon will change. Some observers believe the United States will now act more energetically to preserve the PLO as a political element and will increase its pressure on Israel.

The appointment of George Shultz as secretary of state, a man who is known for his good economic and political ties with Saudi Arabia, is also causing concern. Haig's resignation, everyone agrees, is a grave loss to Israel. Nevertheless, it is stressed in Jerusalem that Israel's position does not depend on this or that political figure and the decisive factor is the basic similarity between Israeli and U.S. interests.

As stated, Jerusalem was totally taken by surprise by Haig's move. The assessment in Jerusalem, in the light of Washington's position on the Lebanese issue and following the prime minister's visit to the United States, was the opposite. It was believed that the secretary of state's position was strengthening and improving. In the course of the night the prime minister kept in touch with Israeli Ambassador in Washington Arens in order to receive updated reports. However, the picture has not yet sufficiently cleared. In its weekly meeting tomorrow the Cabinet will hear about the background to the resignation and hear assessments of its implications.

Government Must 'Act Quickly'

TA260812 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] High-level political sources in Jerusalem have expressed concern that in the wake of Alexander Haig's resignation Israel will be unable to achieve its political objectives. They told our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer that in their opinion Israel should act quickly. The high-level sources explained that the two important departments in the United States, the State and Defense Departments, will now be headed by secretaries who do not agree with Israel's concepts regarding the war in Lebanon.

Our correspondent has learned that Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger told the prime minister that the Peace for Galilee Operation runs counter to U.S. interests. Tomorrow the foreign minister will brief the Cabinet on the effects Alexander Haig's resignation will have, and Mr Begin will apparently send a letter to Haig.

Reactions to Shultz Appointment

TA262059 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] The change of personalities in Washington will apparently be discussed tomorrow at the Cabinet session in Jerusalem. Political circles in Jerusalem are saying that Israel will now make an attempt to rapidly reach a dialogue and understanding with George Shultz, U.S. secretary of state-Designate. Here is our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram with a report on Israeli-U.S. relations in the wake of Mr Haig's resignation. Here is Elimelekh Ram:

[Ram -- live in studio] U.S. policy toward Lebanon may have been the straw that broke the camel's back, but Alexander Haig resigned because of ideological differences of opinion at the top ranks of the U.S. administration between the supporters of hard line, led by Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, and the pragmatic line led by Haig, toward U.S. policy on the Soviet Union and Europe.

On the issue of Lebanon, the outgoing secretary of state found himself more and more isolated. Weinberger, as is well known, dissociated himself from Israel's actions in Lebanon and demanded an immediate cease-fire and withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanon. The question facing Israel now is: how to maintain its understanding with the United States without which the political objectives of the Peace for Galilee campaign will be endangered. In order to reap the political fruits of the military achievements, it is vital to keep the understanding and support of the United States which were expressed in the talks the prime minister held in Washington at the beginning of this week. Israel must keep U.S. support for the creation of the 45-km terrorist-free strip; the removal of foreign forces from Lebanon; the removal of the PLO from Beirut and its disarmament and the establishment of a strong government in Lebanon.

In Jerusalem it was said this evening that our actions could be calculated in such a way that these achievements will not be lost. How can this be done? People found it difficult to say how this could be done. We must recall, nevertheless, that people in Jerusalem emphasized this evening Israel has not given up its unequivocal demand [derisha] that the terrorists should be disarmed and leave Beirut. Philip Habib may find the way. Yesterday, so we have learned, the U.S. envoy, through the U.S. administration, put pressure on Israel so that it would agree to the resumption of the cease-fire and there was indeed a cease-fire in Lebanon today.

And what next? What if Habib does not succeed in his mission? The Cabinet will have to decide about this at its session tomorrow.

Fear of U.S. Policy Change

TA262256 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2210 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Today the United States informed Israel that the reshuffle in the State Department will not mean a change in U.S. policy. Political circles in Jerusalem this evening expressed the hope that there will not really be any change in U.S. policy on Lebanon, although there is still such a fear in Jerusalem. Today Jerusalem waited for a message from Ambassador Habib in Beirut about the chances for an arrangement and the removal of the terrorists from the city. Here is a report by our political correspondent Gad Becker:

The PLO must disarm and leave Beirut. This is what people in Jerusalem are repeatedly saying today. The pressure on the terrorists has increased over the last 24 hours; Israel, which has consolidated the encirclement of the city and again hit the terrorists with bombings and shellings, has again repeated its demand [derisha] in the frenzied pressure and contacts in which France, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, as well as Israel and the United States, are taking part. Today people in Israel waited for a message from Ambassador Habib, who is now in Beirut, although, let us point out, there is no great optimism in Jerusalem about the chance of the PLO really disarming. The problem of Beirut, political sources are saying, will have to be resolved, although the Cabinet's decision not to send the IDF into the western part of the town still stands.

As for the U.S. position, Israeli sources are saying the United States, under whose pressure and in accordance with whose request the cease-fire went into effect despite the terrorists' difficult situation, should work to remove them from Beirut. The evaluation in Jerusalem is that no immediate change is to be expected in U.S. policy following Haig's resignation and proof of this is the vote in the UN Security Council against the French proposal and today's message saying there will be no change in U.S. policy.

However, political circles are saying that the personnel changes in the State Department will leave their mark sooner or later. The circles say Israel may now have to accelerate the political and military moves in order to try to crystallize the arrangement in Lebanon on the foundations of the basis of the existing understanding with the United States. Tomorrow morning the Cabinet will discuss all the latest developments in Lebanon and in the United States.

HAIG INTERCEPTS 'SHARP' REAGAN MESSAGE TO BEGIN

TA280608 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0508 GMT 28 Jun 82

[Text] The picture surrounding U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's resignation has become clearer this morning. At the end of the week, Haig prevented the delivery of a sharp and firm message from the U.S. President to Israel about the continued war in Lebanon. A message that was delivered was one by Prime Minister Menahem Begin to the U.S. President. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports on the weekend messages.

[Schiffer — live] The message President Reagan was about to send to Jerusalem was very sharp and constituted the most serious breach [biqi'a] in U.S. support for Israel's moves in Lebanon and, perhaps, also paved the way for the resignation of Secretary Alexander Haig, who successfully prevented delivery of the message to the prime minister.

The U.S. President asked Israel to stop the bombardment of west Beirut. His aides at the White House formulated a firm message, demanding an end to the fighting and the maintaining of the cease-fire. The gist of the message was supposed to be a warning not to enter west Beirut. The President explained that he found it hard to continue his support for Israel because of the pictures shown on U.S television of the destruction and killing caused by the Israeli Air Force bombardments of Beirut. The U.S. President expressed the fear that he would not be able to continue supporting the Israeli position because of the hostile public opinion forming in the United States in the wake of the bombardments, which he must take into consideration.

According to the report reaching Jerusalem, Secretary Haig successfully persuaded the President that if the message were sent it would undermine envoy Habib's efforts to get the terrorists out of Beirut and would drive Israel into extremist acts. Now, the question is being asked here: Who is going to persuade the President the next time, after Haig is gone, when the President is exposed only to those holding a hostile position, unsympathetic to Israel, at the White House?

An analysis by political sources -- incidentally, the ministers were not briefed about it at the Cabinet session yesterday — indicates that there will not be an immediate change in U.S. policy toward Israel over the settlement [hesderim] in Lebanon. However, one should not harbor any illusions. In spite of the soothing remarks which William Clark, presidential adviser on national security affairs, asked to be conveyed to Israel, the contents will change and only the cover will remain the same. Other things which will remain unchanged are the principles agreed upon in the prime minister's talks with President Reagan, which state that a settlement in Lebanon should strive to remove all foreign forces from Lebanon and create a buffer zone supervised by a multinational force on Israel's northern border. However, as for the specifics, Israel will not receive full U.S. backing in the negotiations it would have received had Secretary Haig continued in his post.

Meanwhile, the prime minister has sent a message to President Reagan. U.S. Congressman Charles Wilson has received unprecedented publicity, which he probably did not foresee upon his arrival in Israel. Mr Begin listened Saturday to the interview the Democratic congressman from Texas granted to David Essing on the Voice of Israel English-language program. The prime minister was so impressed that he asked for the transcript of the interview.

Yesterday the prime minister sent a message to the U.S. President, the gist of which is the full text of the interview in which Mr Wilson gives enthusiastic and rationalized support for the Peace for Galilee Operation.

It was pointed out in Jerusalem that Mr Wilson is not very well-known in Washington, among 453 members of Congress. However, in the wake of criticism leveled by U.S. Senate leaders at Israel his remarks have a balancing significance. About such cases it has been said: The truth is more important than the one who says it.

LEBANESE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS PLO'S PROPOSALS

TA280209 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0200 GMT 28 Jun 82

[Text] The Lebanese Government has accepted in principle the PLO proposals on ending the war. Beirut sources said the PLO suggests that it hand over its arms to the Lebanese Army and that its 5,000 fighters be evacuated from Beirut, preferably by sea. In return, the PLO requests [mevaqesh] that the IDF withdraw to a line about 5 km from the city in order to guarantee the evacuation of the terrorists.

Beirut sources said the proposed arrangement generally answers the conditions proposed by the Israeli Government. Today the Lebanese Government's representatives will discuss with the PLO some details included in its proposals such as the PLO's demand [derisha] for a partial Israeli withdrawal, a demand Israel has turned down in the past.

PLO Denies New Proposals

TA280319 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0300 GMT 28 Jun 82

[Text] A PLO spokesman has denied reports that the organization submitted new proposals on ending the war in Lebanon. Beirut sources said the PLO proposed that it hand over its arms to the Lebanese Army and be allowed to evacuate its 5,000 people form Beirut, preferably by sea. The PLO was said to request [mevaquesh] that IDF withdraw to a point about 5 km from Beirut in order to guarantee the evacuation of the terrorists.

However, a PLO spokesman said PLO leaders are determined to fight until they gain victory. According to the spokesman the intention of the report on the PLO's proposals is to undermine the morale of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

Nevertheless, Beirut government sources said the negotiations with the PLO on the details of the proposal -- especially on the PLO's demand [derisha] that the IDF withdraw 5 km from the city -- will continue today.

JERUSALEM AWAITS 'ANSWERS' FROM HABIB

TA261645 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1625 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Despite the cease-fire Israel has not given up its demand that the terrorists in Beirut surrender and leave the Lebanese capital. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer comments on the political moves concerning this issue.

[Schiffer -- live in the studio] Jerusalem is awaiting answers from U.S. envoy Philip Habib. Israel is not giving up its demand that the terrorists besieged in Beirut lay down their arms and leave Lebanon. Mr Habib has received another extention for his mediation efforts.

The following demands to the terrorists have been transmitted via the Lebanese Government: Arms are to be laid down and handed over to the Lebanese Army, the Lebanese Army is to enter the terrorists' strongholds, the organizations' leaders [rashey ha'irgunim] are to leave Lebanon, and, especially, the extraterritorial status of the areas controlled by the terrorists in Beirut is to be canceled.

Israel has added another demand -- the departure of all terrorists and not only the organizations' leaders from Lebanon. On this issue there was an interesting night of talks in Beirut between Ambassador Philip Habib and Defense Minister Sharon. Habib asked the defense minister: What are you prepared to give up or do for the terrorists so all this can come about? The defense minister answered, while looking at Habib, we are prepared to give them their lives as a present.

In his mediation efforts Mr Habib is aided by Saudi Arabia, Egypt and France. These countries are also pressuring the terrorist organizations to accept the proposals of the Lebanese Government. Otherwise, the organizations' leaders have been told, they will shoulder the responsibility for the consequences. The results in the field are very grave indeed -- the air force yesterday bombed the terrorists' quarters in Beirut, especially their command posts.

It should be noted that yesterday Philip Habib exerted very heavy pressure for the achievement of a cease-fire and even threatened to resign from his job and return to the United States. This may have been one of the most important and major reasons for the achievement of a cease-fire at 2000 [1800 GMT].

Another pause for U.S. mediation was then granted. Tomorrow the Cabinet will deal with the question of the terrorists' presence in Beirut with the ministers agreeing that Israel will not give up on the point of the terrorists' presence and will use its own means if the U.S. mediation fails.

[Question by announcer] Official Jerusalem is awaiting Philip Habib. When will he arrive?

[Schiffer] Jerusalem is now waiting for clarifications from Philip Habib in various ways. It is not Habib himself that is awaited but the receipt of clarifications he is supposed to be sending from Beirut. Those who are waiting for these clarifications have been doing so for some hours.

[Question] Has anything been said about the important meeting -- so it is called in Beirut -- with Ilyas Sarkis and the possibility that the Lebanese prime minister will retract his resignation?

[Answer] It seems that the meeting which is being held, or is supposed to be held, in Beirut is part of that mediation effort involving talks between the Lebanese Government and the terrorist organizations, with Philip Habib's participation. The results are supposed to be conveyed to Jerusalem and the only result Jerusalem is prepared to accept is the departure of the terrorists with their leaders from Lebanon, the laying down of their arms and handing the arms to the Lebanese Army.

[Question] To what extent, would you say, does Alexander Haig's resignation affect or cloud all these expectations and political contacts?

[Answer] Haig's resignation -- especially on the policymaker level -- is defined as a catastrophe for Israel. The ministerial level expresses itself differently. It would tell you we are not dependent on this or that secretary of state and that policy is determined according to interests. Despite the fact that Alexander Haig was a clear friend of Israel and more than supported Israel's foreign policy, and certainly the Lebanese affair, the ministerial level emphasizes -- and reports on this have reached us today already -- that Haig's resignation was not mainly against the background of Lebanon.

The Lebanese issue was only one point in a variety of issues in which he was divided from the conservative wing of the administration, of the White House.

[Question] The tendency, of course, is to link Haig's resignation with the Lebanese issue.

[Answer] Yes, and I will now cite remarks made in Jerusalem. I am not judging them. According to reports reaching Jerusalem and which are highlighted, it is said Haig's resignation was not only against the Lebanese background; there was a harsh argument within the administration over the European issue; that matter lasted a long time and culminated at the end of the week in Haig's resignation.

[Question] Does the U.S. veto in the UN Security Council not tend to counter those who speak of a catastrophe following Haig's resignation?

[Answer] The U.S. veto for the time being, may be smilingly said to be the last veto perhaps. We will have to see how the U.S. foreign policy operates when Haig's replacement enters on duty. Meanwhile, trouble is taken in Jerusalem to stress that Israel had better, perhaps, go for a very rapid settlement of the Lebanese issue as long as Alexander Haig is still in the State Department. He will be sitting there for some time until his replacement takes over. Then, too, it is emphasized in Jerusalem, the principles of U.S. foreign policy, the principles determined in the prime minister's talks with President Reagan regarding the solution to the Lebanese crisis, are principles that Shultz surely will not change. These are the removal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and the establishment of the multinational force that will guarantee that there are no terrorists in a 45-km strip from Israel's northern border.

[Announcer] Well, then we are witnessing very intensive political activity, a little quietly, as befitting such political activity, in the direction of removing all foreign forces and leading to the surrender of the PLO people in Lebanon and their departure from there. Thank you, Shim'on Schiffer.

BEGIN CONVENES RESTRICTED MINISTERIAL MEETING

TA270420 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0406 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] The Cabinet will hold its weekly meeting this morning, and the prime minister, the foreign minister and the defense minister will report on the political moves for the stabilization of the situation in Lebanon. The foreign minister will evaluate the significance of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's resignation.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that last night the prime minister convened a most restricted ministerial consultation to discuss the current situation. Our correspondent was told that Israel had not given up its demand that the terrorists in west Beirut would lay down their arms and leave Lebanon, and if this is not done through Philip Habib's mediation attempts, Israel will do it.

The fear has been expressed in Jerusalem that with the reshuffle in the U.S. State Department an attempt will now be made by the administration to rescue the PLO which is besieged in Beirut and win the sympathy of the Arab countries. Our correspondent has learned that outgoing U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig spoke Thursday night [24 June] with the prime minister about the crisis in Lebanon, but he did not hint to him that he had submitted his resignation. A source close to the prime minister has told our correspondent that Mr Begin knew about Secretary of State Haig's intention to resign.

CABINET PROVIDES TIME FOR U.S. MEDIATION EFFORT

TA271518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Our political correspondent has reported that in the Cabinet session today the prime minister read a letter sent him by MK Hayim Druckman beseeching him to continue the fight against the terrorists in Beirut and not to comply with the voices of the various defeatists.

The prime minister complained in the session that the meeting of the ministers at his place last night became known and was broadcast on the Voice of Israel.

Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer says the Cabinet's decision on the matter of the terrorists in Beirut provides an additional period of time for the U.S. mediation efforts to remove the terrorists and their leaders by political means before Israel decides on alternative means.

DEMANDS 'BY AND LARGE ACCEPTABLE' TO U.S.

TA271535 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1514 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker -- recorded]

[Text] The Cabinet met today for 5 hours and discussed the overall issues connected with the situation in Lebanon and its military and political aspects. As we heard, a statement on the Israeli position regarding the arrangement for Beirut was issued at the end of the session. This is a political move, Cabinet elements have said. Israel has now made clear what its demands [drishoteha] are, and they are by and large acceptable to the United States, except for the question of whether all the terrorists should be removed, or only their leaders. Now, Cabinet circles have said, Philip Habib can again act through political ways, but the Cabinet has also emphasized its determination to bring an end to the terrorist presence in Beirut and in Lebanon.

Today, too, the ministers were confronted by dilemmas on various questions. On the one hand, to repeat, it is inconceivable that the situation in Beirut be allowed to remain as it is; but on the other hand, the difficulties are also well known, and they are international and internal. The terrorists, as we all know, have thus far turned down all the U.S. or Lebanese offers and there is not much optimism regarding the chances that they will accept them. However, the siege of west Beirut continues and is in fact getting tighter, and the predicament of the terrorists in the city is getting worse.

However, there is another problem: After all, each day of quiet enhances the Beirut terrorists' self-confidence and stubbornness.

Along with the political declaration today, the Cabinet intentionally masked the military intentions. We will no longer answer the question regarding the Cabinet resolution not to enter west Beirut, an official government source said.

Most of the deliberations were devoted to a review of the situation in Lebanon as well as Israel's objectives and military and political goals, but the Cabinet also found time to hear and discuss the resignation of Secretary of State Alexander Haig. Again Jerusalem expressed concern over a more far-ranging change in U.S. policy. Haig was a great friend of Israel, the prime minister repeated. Mr Begin actually knew about Haig's resignation before it was published. He read out an exchange of messages between himself and the outgoing secretary after the resignation. In general, it is hoped in Jerusalem that it will be possible to carry on a substantive working relation with George Shultz as well and that the administration will not change the policy guidelines it pledged to pursue with regard to Lebanon.

And one other remark on the fringes: Israeli sources said today that contrary to what was published in Washington, the prime minister did not promise President Reagan that Israel would not enter Beirut.

CABINET RESOLUTION ON LEBANON 'COMPROMISE'

TA271732 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1707 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer -- recorded]

[Text] The Cabinet resolution is a compromise between the various positions presented in the Cabinet session, during which a bitter argument over the phrasing of this resolution occurred. This indicates the variance of opinions among the ministers who participated in the deliberations. The ministers agree that the terrorists cannot remain in Beirut because this would preclude the possibility of establishing a stable government in Lebanon, and, what is more, it would prevent any arrangement guaranteeing the well-being of the northern settlements.

Thus far the terrorists have not responded to the proposals raised by the Lebanese Government. The military pressure imposed by Israel was eased several times by repeated cease-fires.

To repeat, a compromise was obtained at the meeting, but the decisions made last night at the prime minister's residence will not be applied at once. The Cabinet expressed readiness to allow another grace period for the U.S. mediation efforts.

As various spokesmen expressed it, the Cabinet is offering the terrorists a generous proposal: not surrender, but an organized way to leave Lebanon. Israel is not giving up its intention to remove the terrorists from Beirut through the means it finds appropriate unless the various mediators succeed in obtaining it.

At the session the prime minister made it clear that he had never given his word to the leaders of the U.S. administration that we would not enter Beirut. Mr Begin came to the meeting today armed with the minutes taken during his talks in the United States.

Yasir 'Arafat's smirk, as broadcast on the television interview aired last night, greatly angered the prime minister.

The facts are totally different. The terrorist leader has tried several time to flee Beirut and arranged for himself shelter in the Soviet Embassy there.

Today the ministers did not get a review of the current state of U.S. foreign policy following the personnel reshuffle in the U.S. State Department. Some Cabinet ministers even noted this fact at the end of the meeting.

If one is to sum things up, the various approaches in the Cabinet regarding the way to handle the terrorists in Beirut bred the compromise-resolution that emerged. However, one should emphasize that the terrorists will again err if they interpret the various opinions voiced at the meeting as a sign of weakness, and would thus be comitting the same mistake they have made in the past. If they do not leave Beirut peacefully, Israel will find the way to handle this problem.

More on 27 June Cabinet Meeting

TA280856 Jerusalem POST in English 28 Jun 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by David Landau and Asher Wallfish]

[Excerpts] The Cabinet resolved yesterday to give U.S. diplomacy at least another few days to work out a peaceful solution to the siege of west Beirut. At the same time, however, the government is anxious to stress that Israel regards the military option as still open, if diplomacy should fail.

Cabinet sources said after yesterday's five-hour meeting that Prime Minister Menahem Begin did not promise U.S. President Ronald Reagan that Israel will not attack west Beirut. Referring to a stenographic transcript of the Reagan-Begin conversation, the sources flatly denied the White House spokesman's assertion that Begin gave such a promise.

The sources indicated that Begin was very firm regarding the estimated 6,000 PLO men holed-up in west Beirut, making it clear to Reagan that Israel will not relent in its demand that they be disarmed and evacuated.

Cabinet sources indicated last night that these detailed proposals are not to be seen as Israel's "last word," but rather as an invitation to consider, designed to elicit a reasonable counter-offer from the other side.

Thus, for instance, although the Cabinet proposal requires the departure of all PLO forces, Israel will have to consider seriously a counter-proposal for the departure of a lesser, though still significant, number of them.

Similarly, the proposal for the (second-stage) withdrawal of all foreign armies seems to be canvassed more energetically by the U.S. than by Israel. Israeli policymakers apparently regard the prospect of a total Syrian withdrawal from all of Lebanon -- including the Biqa' Valley in the east -- as unrealistic in the short term. "But we are certainly not going to undercut the Americans on this," a Cabinet source remarked yesterday.

The Cabinet decision, setting out Israel's "recommendations" -- but hit back hard if it is violated -- was drafted by Begin and carried unanimously.

One Cabinet source said the premier submitted the draft at the start of the session. In spite of its eventual unanimous adoption, however, it apparently triggered a tough, heart-searching debate focussing on the problem of west Beirut.

Ministers favouring an early IDF assault on this last PLO stronghold urged that time is running out for Israel. They cited the resignation of Alexander Haig as secretary of state, mounting world opposition and unrest on the home front as factors militating towards fast action in Beirut.

The majority took Begin's line, however, favouring another round of U.S. envoy Philip Habib's diplomatic efforts. Begin argued that the U.S. veto of the Security Council draft resolution requiring Israel to pull back means there is no formal impediment to the IDF's staying put.

Plainly, the issues of casualties already suffered, and likely to be suffered in an assault on west Beirut, hung heavy over the Cabinet's deliberations.

Cabinet sources said the decision impleis "at least a few days' grace" for Habib. Another Cabinet meeting is probable later in the week and, if the American envoy reports no progress, the ministers will have to study the other options.

Several ministers have acknowledged that the credibility of Israel's military option against west Beirut was weakened by the plethora of reports over the last 10 days that the Cabinet had ruled out a military attack. Hence, the present effort to restore that credibility by the assertions that Begin gave no promises and that the Cabinet is prepared to resort to "other options" if necessary.

Meridor Statement

TA271226 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1218 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] The Cabinet meeting ended a short time ago. Over to David Essing at the prime minister's office:

[Essing -- live] Yes, the Cabinet meeting did end a few minutes ago and Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor has just made this important statement on the situation in Lebanon in the name of the Israeli Government. Dan Meridor: [Begin Meridor recording] The Cabinet decided today that Israel will maintain the cease-fire in Lebanon. If the enemy violates the cease-fire, the IDF will respond with full severity. The Government of Israel recommends that the Lebanese Army enter West Beirut. All the 15 terrorist organizations, of which the roof organization called the PLO is comprised, will hand over their weapons to the Lebanese Army. All members of the above-mentioned terrorist organizations, without any exception, will leave Beirut and Lebanon. The departing column of terrorists, under the protection of the International Red Cross will move across the international Lebanese-Syrian border along the Beirut-Damascus road. The Israel Defense Forces will insure that in the sector of the road that is under its control, the column will have safe passage. If the terrorists prefer an alternative route, this will be made possible for them by the IDF.

With the liberation of west Beirut and the reunification of the Lebanese capital, the political negotiations which will be opened between all the parties concerned will begin with a view to reaching an agreement which will guarantee the territorial integrity of Lebanon, the departure of all foreign forces from their country, its independence and the peace of its inhabitants. This agreement will ensure security and peace for the Galilee and its inhabitants, for Israel and its citizens. Israel will gladly accept the good offices of the United States to the negotiating parties in order to reach this agreement. Thank you. [end recording]

[Essing] This was a statement from Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor a few moments ago, here at the prime minister's office.

SHARON ON PLO IN LEBANON, HAIG RESIGNATION

TA271813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon this evening met with political correspondents in Jerusalem. The discussion dealt with the political solutions Israel wants to achieve in Lebanon as a result of the IDF operation, with the siege of the terrorists in west Beirut and many other subjects. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer returned a few minutes ago from the meeting with the defense minister:

[Schiffer -- live] First, the problem of Beirut: how to deal with the terrorists besieged in Beirut. The defense minister says the problem of Beirut is not simple -- either from the military or from the internal Lebanese political aspect, or from the international aspect. Sharon stressed that every effort that might lead to the departure of the terrorists from Beirut without the need for a fight in the city must be made -- and this is what the government is doing. The government, he said, will make every effort to get the terrorists to leave the area.

Minister Sharon was asked why Israel does not exploit the opportunity to kill the terrorists in Beirut. He answered that he does not rejoice over the existence of terrorists in any place, but there is a difference between their presence in an Arab state and the existence of their infrastructure in a no-man's land -- a kind of pirate state, as is the case in Lebanon, where the government cannot control them.

Sharon emphasized that Israel is now close to achieving its political objectives, much closer than it was 3 weeks ago. The terrorists have been dealt a very hard blow. He also stressed that it must be recalled that in an operation of this type it is not possible -- and that there was no intention -- to uproot the Palestinians: The goal was to uproot the PLO, and this is possible militarily.

Sharon was asked about the change of officials in the U.S. State Department and he said U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig was held in great esteem. However, we have traditional, friendly relations with the U.S. Government, with the various administrations in the United States and notwithstanding all our sorrow, Sharon stressed, this event does not have to influence Israel's decisions or the ways it deals with various problems.

As to the government's proposals for resolving the problem of the terrorists in Beirut, Sharon emphasized that Israel did not agree that the terrorists would leave just Beirut to return to their camps. Israel is demanding the departure of all terrorists from Lebanon. Israel, so he said, has made a generous proposal. Israel did not agree, he revealed, to an IDF withdrawal to several kilometers from Beirut and that the terrorists would then enter their camps. He claimed the sole possibility to get the terrorists to accept these conditions is increasing the pressure on them and to this end we have already witnessed efforts.

Sharon was also asked about the possible future political solution. He said the solutions depend on the development of the political situation in Lebanon. This country has been immersed in war for a long time, and according to data from Lebanon, the Lebanese casualties in recent wars were already as high as 120,000 dead. Therefore, it is still difficult to predict how the Lebanese will succeed in settling their problems and what government will be established. Israel wants the establishment in Lebanon of a government that will demand the removal of all terrorists from Lebanon and that will seek a peace agreement with Israel. At the same time, the defense minister stressed repeatedly that Israel did not embark on the Peace for Galilee Operation in order to bring about this or that government in Lebanon; but, of course, as he has said over and over again, it would be hypocritical to think that Israel has no interest in what government is established in Lebanon.

Syrian Cease-Fire Violation

TA271816 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1755 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker -- recorded]

[Excerpts] In reply to a question on the role the Christians played in the battles in Lebanon, the defense minister disclosed this evening that the Christians are presently engaged in a bitter fight with Syrian forces. The battle is north of the Beirut-Damascus highway, near Hammana. The Syrian operation constitutes a certain violation of the cease-fire the defense minister noted. Sharon also noted the Christians have recently increased their activity, have captured the city of Jumhur and participated in the mopping-up operation in 'Alayh.

Were the defense minister and the IDF authorized to react to cease-fire violations by entering Beirut itself? Sharon was asked. He replied: This should require a special Cabinet decision. The Cabinet will decide the nature of the IDF's severe reaction and where it should be directed.

The defense minister added that Israel will not agree to withdraw from Beirut by a few kilometers; the siege must continue and the terrorists will not be relieved of the pressure on them.

The defense minister concluded his remarks by voicing extremely harsh criticism of political speakers who attack the Cabinet and voice warnings in public against carrying out certain military moves. They can come to either the prime minister or the Cabinet as a whole rather than offend the soldiers, who hear every word from the rearguard. Such conduct constitutes trade in victims, the defense minister charged.

He praised the IDF and all its branches profusely, commending the army as it has demonstrated its ability in the last 3 weeks.

More Remarks

TA280850 Jerusalem POST in English 28 Jun 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] It will be up to the full Cabinet to decide how and where the Israel Defence Forces should respond if the cease-fire in Lebanon is violated. This point was made by Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon at a press conference following the Cabinet's decision-in-principle yesterday that "if the enemy violates the cease-fire, the IDF will respond with full severity."

Sharon revealed that the Syrians in fact violated the cease-fire yesterday, entering into a heavy engagement with the Christian forces at Hammana, north of the Beirut-Damascus road.

Sharon insisted that the IDF's responses last week, which developed into large-scale battles with the Syrians and massive bombardments of west Beirut, were also undertaken with the full knowledge of the Cabinet and of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee.

He acknowledged that those responses were not confirmed, in place or in scope, to the specific violations by the Syrians and the PLO. Israel chose, in response to the enemy's violations, to hit back in areas that were strategically important to the IDF, he said.

As a result of last week's fighting, Sharon continued, the IDF is now deployed on the key mountain rises of central Lebanon, straddling the Beirut-Damascus road. This will "considerably improve the prospects" of Israel's achieving its demand that the PLO disarm and leave west Beirut.

While the Cabinet had decided yesterday to give Philip Habib's diplomacy more time, the IDF's improved deployment provided Israel with other options -- "indeed, more than one solution," Sharon said -- should the cease-fire break down. Every effort, however, should be made to remove the PLO from west Beirut by peaceful means.

The defence minister insisted that "there was never a Cabinet decision" not to enter west Beirut nor did Prime Minister Begin give any such undertaking to President Reagan in their talks last week.

Sharon acknowledged that the alleged existence of such a Cabinet decision has "embedded itself deep in the public's consciousness." Nevertheless, he had checked and there was no such decision on the record.

(A Cabinet minister told the Jerusalem POST some time ago that there was indeed no formal vote and decision not to enter west Beirut. But Begin had told the Cabinet that this was the policy, and all the ministers had signalled their assent.)

Sharon was reflecting a widespread feeling in government circles (reported in yesterday's POST) that the publication, or non-denial, of Israel's intention not to enter west Beirut had been a bad tactical blunder, for it had eased the psychological pressure on the bealeaguered PLO.

Referring to the Cabinet's demand that all PLO men withdraw from Beirut, Sharon said Israel cannot agree to the idea that just the leadership leave while the rank-and-file move back into the Palestinian refugee camps. "That will hardly be a change from the present situation," he said. "The Lebanese Army will certainly be unable to disarm or control the remaining terrorists."

Israel is similarly firm in rejecting proposals for a partial withdrawal of the IDF before the PLO has been disarmed and evacuated, Sharon added.

Sharon said the reports that the PLO is blocking the exits from west Beirut and not allowing noncombatants to leave shows that the PLO "still holds people hostage -- just as it has always done."

He called once more for "patience and firm resolve" by Israel. If Israel sticks firmly to its goals, he said, it will surely achieve them.

SHARON ADDRESSES KNESSET DEFENSE COMMITTEE

TA271503 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1450 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has said if the Israeli suggestion included in today's Cabinet resolution is not responded to, then a new Cabinet resolution will be needed. As we reported, the Israeli suggestion discussed the terrorists laying down their arms and leaving Lebanon unharmed.

Minister Sharon was talking to members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, at a session which is still underway.

A participant in the debate, MK Mikha Harish, said any objective that could conceivably be achieved through entering west Beirut is not worth the sacrifices involved. He added that Israel should not do the Christians' job for them, since they themselves are not prepared to take action to remove the terrorists.

Our Knesset correspondent, Moshe Hakohen, who reported this, added that the Alignment members of the Knesset committee have turned down a suggestion raised by MK Mordekhay Gur to hold a news conference this evening in which the Alignment would formulate its position regarding developments in Lebanon. Most of the members, led by MK's Peres and Rabin, maintained that one should wait and make do with partial reactions, as the Alignment has so far done.

Alignment MK's on Cease-Fire

TA262342 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2332 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] The Alignment members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, who were summoned to a special session tonight, made a decision after midnight [local time] calling for a scrupulous maintenance of the cease-fire in Lebanon. A military entry into western Beirut, the Alignment faction members say in their announcement, not only involves dangers, losses and destruction, it could also jeopardize the achievement of the objectives of the Peace for Galilee campaign, including jeopardizing the establishment of an effective multinational force in a sector 40 km north of Israel.

An entry into Beirut could undermine even further Israel's international status and put strain on our relations with the United States, the Alignment faction members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee conclude their announcement.

The faction's coordinator in the committee, MK Victor Shem-Tov, appealed tonight by cable to the committee's chairman, MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, and, in the name of the faction members, he demanded [tav'ah] that Prime Minister Menahem Begin appear tomorrow morning before the committee.

DEFENSE MINISTER ON PLO PROPOSALS, RECENT FIGHTING

TA251902 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1827 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Interview with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon by Yoram Ronen -- live in the studio]

[Text] [Question] Mr Sharon, 10 days ago you said in this studio that the war was in fact over. Yet today, almost 3 weeks after the beginning of the war it is still going on with heavy casualties, and its end is not in sight. People are asking: until when, and why?

[Answer] I want to say that today we are close to a state of calm on the front, to a state of achieving the objectives we set out to achieve, the main and chief objective being the destruction of the PLO and the destruction of the terrorist force in Lebanon. We are closer to this today than ever before. In spite of the escalation in the fighting in the last 2 days, we are much closer today to a political settlement, to achieving our goal, which chiefly is destroying the PLO. Our second goal, on which Israel insists, is to drive the Syrian Army out, it being the body that sponsored and massively supported the terrorists and under whose sponsorship the terrorists organized. I would say that we may obtain -- if we show patience and cool -- a peace treaty with another Arab country in the north.

[Question] The question arises, Mr Sharon: Is it possible to annihilate and totally destroy the PLO militarily? Will it not have a resurgence with more extremism?

[Answer] It is possible to deal a lethal blow to the PLO. There is also a difference between the activity of the PLO in an Arab country -- although we would not like it to exist anywhere -- and its activity in a place where there was in fact no country, in a kind of pirate state where there was no law, no rule and where it did whatever it pleased.

[Question] However, the PLO will be able to go on attacking us in the Mahane Yehuda Market [in Jerusalem] and in the Karmel Market [in Tel Aviv] or our ambassadors in Europe and in the United States.

[Answer] I think if we continue with our mission the PLO's ability will be reduced; besides, we have never granted immunity to the PLO. When we set out to create a 45-km buffer zone through a political settlement for which we strive -- in my opinion, the chances of reaching such a settlement today are much greater than in the past, much greater in spite of the past escalation -- we reserved for ourselves freedom of action against the terrorist organizations if they again dare to raise their heads and attack us. What tied our hands was that any action we took to prevent the strengthening of the terrorist organizations, we had to take heavy shelling of civilian population centers. We have now resolved this problem.

[Question] When you talk about a political settlement you obviously refer to a political settlement with Lebanon, perhaps a peace treaty with Lebanon. Do you think it is possible to reach any settlement with Lebanon without Syria, without Syria's explicit approval?

[Answer] I think that today everything to a large extent depends on the extent of our patience and cool. Casualties are painful to all of us; there is nothing more painful. The attempt in the last few days to present a picture as if there are those who are apprehensive about casualties and others who are not is, I think, very serious. I would like to tell you something: I am coming now straight from the frontline, I am coming from a place where bitter battles were fought, in the Bhamdun-'Alayh area. This was an exceptionally important place for us because it is actually the strategic site; whoever controls it controls Lebanon.

This place has so far been controlled by the Syrians. The Syrians violated the cease-fire, and we seized the opportunity to take over this area. I visited there; I spoke to the soldiers. I met soldiers of the Golani battalion there -- this is an anonymous battalion, but it operated and achieved perhaps more than any other battalion on the front -- I stood with the soldiers, who were covered with dirt, with bloodshot eyes, after having fought difficult battles; everything was still going up in smoke there. A batch of newspapers arrived on the site. I overheard a soldier telling his mates: Here, the poison has arrived. It must be realized that these people are fighting on the front. If people want to attack the government, that is legitimate; if people want to attack me personally, that is legitimate. But they should not do that at the expense of the real war against the PLO.

[Question] Mr Sharon, it seems to me that even the harshest critics of the government always took care to emphasize and point out that the IDF fought the war brilliantly and exceptionally.

[Answer] I would like to tell you: When a soldier on the front, on the firing line, fighting some of the most difficult battles the IDF has ever fought....[apparently changes idea] I want to note that the Syrians are fighting. You must understand, over 500 Syrian tanks have been destroyed to date in the fighting, and about 100 terrorist tanks. These are very difficult battles, waged under very difficult conditions. When a soldier is on the front and he is confronted daily with the alleged differences of opinion, then, in my opinion, we are thus not attacking the government or me personally; we are attacking the mission we set out for ourselves. We set out on one mission: the destruction of the PLO or dealing it a fatal blow so that we can live in peace and security in the State of Israel. In my opinion, today we are closer to this situation than [sentence unfinished]. I also believe the fighting will subside and that we are in for a quieter period and are at the threshold of a political solution.

I would like to tell you something: Two days ago the terrorist organizations presented a proposal -- actually it was their leaders, not directly but I cannot disclose through whom, but the talk was conducted with me in Beirut 2 days ago some time before dawn -- saying: We will cease fire on the condition that the leaders of the terrorist organizations are allowed to leave Beirut. What does this prove? This proves through and through that they are in a desperate situation; we must have patience.

[Question] Why did we not act generously and accept the proposal? Why did we not allow them to escape and, perhaps, reach a settlement?

[Answer] We offered them a very generous proposal. We offered a proposal to the terrorists to leave Beirut, all of them, not just their leaders. What does it mean that their leaders should leave? If their leaders leave, that means that they will move to another country and will immediately use the force they would have left behind them. We offered them a very generous proposal: We offered them their lives, we offered them the possibility to leave for another Arab country in organized convoys, under the supervision of the Red Cross.

I want to say that I heard explanations by commentators who said that there had been other political options without resorting to the latest [military] moves.

[Question] Are you referring to Major General [Reserves] Gavish who said that perhaps we could have reached our objectives through political ways rather than by bloody battles?

[Answer] I would not like to identify the man. We have never had a similar situation to date. Our control today in the Bhamdun-'Alayh area, which is the most important strategic area, in my opinion gives us the choice today to choose the way we want. I think the problem still ahead of us is a difficult one and it is good that we have the possibility to choose today. This compels us to show cool and understanding. After such an operation it is impossible not to show the same degree of patience and cool shown by the IDF soldiers on the battlefront. The rearguard, the press, the party functionaries should show the same degree of patience. Let them hold their fire until the fire there is over -- I want to put the functionaries at ease. I think that this moment is very close; please, hold your fire. Let us finish the war on the battlefront, give us the opportunity to create the political-security fruits for whose sake we set out to war. I want to reiterate: In my opinion, in spite of the escalation, today we are closer than ever to the end of the war.

[Question] Ten days ago you also promised the war would end; I hope it does not take another 10 days for it to be over.

[Answer] If you ask me whether we will have to keep troops in Lebanon 10 days I can already tell you that we will have to keep troops much more than 10 days in Lebanon.

[Question] Ten months?

[Answer] I would not say that. After all, we want to keep it as short as possible. However, if you ask me whether I think the battles and the fighting will subside -- I think we are in for a drop in the level of the fighting and are in for a lull, as a result of an absolute change in our field situation. One must remember one thing: The question is always being asked who violated the cease-fire -- you know, I also hear these things.

Today, I spoke with soldiers and I can tell you frankly that a soldier told me: We opened the fire. I explained to that soldier: Opening fire or the violation of a cease-fire cannot be measured only in the region you see before you. Generally speaking, Israel proposed a cease-fire and it absolutely stopped firing 2 weeks ago at 1200. The terrorists resumed firing and the Syrians, in those places where there were also terrorists, resumed firing. They had a reason.

Why did this happen precisely in the Beirut area? Because in Beirut they wanted to reconstruct the link between the Syrian Army and Beirut. Whoever sits in Beirut ultimately determines the policy of the Lebanese government, which we all hope will be established. Therefore, I would say that the current situation is as follows: The Syrians violated the cease-fire; we, it is true, did not react exactly at the same spot where they violated the cease-fire. We reacted at the spot we deemed the achievement would be important and which would give the State of Israel the maximum possibilities to arrive at a political-security settlement for whose sake we went to war, and that is the destruction of the PLO in Lebanon as a constant threatening factor to Israel.

[Question] Mr Sharon, would you be willing to promise that the IDF will not enter west Beirut? Will we be able to go on besieging Beirut at a time when the United States and, perhaps, the entire Western world are opposed?

[Answer] I would not like to elaborate here about the steps we will adopt in Beirut. Earlier I emphasized that contrary to the commentator who thought that there were other options, there had been no other options.

In my opinion, various options have emerged on this matter today. I would say that this is a very difficult issue which the government will have to decide. This government has already made many difficult decisions: It decided on the peace, it decided on the reactor in Baghdad....

[Question] It also decided not to enter west Beirut.

[Answer] It also decided.... On this issue, I would suggest.... After all, you do not exactly know what the government decided. Generally speaking, the Cabinet is a consulting body. Conditions, situations and circumstances change. It would have been bad and bitter if the Cabinet had, for example, 5 years ago after its establishment, made one decision and no decision afterwards. Where would we be then? As for Beirut: It is encircled. I can explicitly state that Beirut today is encircled -- in contrast to the situation prevailing until yesterday -- in such a fashion that this siege can no longer be broken, under no conditions. In my opinion, we have today more than just one choice of ways to bring the terrorists to such a point where we can feel at ease about it for a very long time -- and that is actually what we are striving for.

[Question] Finally, Mr Sharon, the war which began as the Peace for Galilee Operation has actually become the Peace for Lebanon operation -- it is gradually expanding. A war which began with an almost absolute national consensus is now starting to reveal rifts, anxieties and doubts. Are you also apprehensive about these doubts?

[Answer] The war which began under the slogan, Peace for Galilee, continues to fulfill the mission of peace for the Galilee. The name "Peace for Galilee" has never and will never award immunity to the terrorists. Whoever thinks that a terrorist operating anywhere against a settlement outside the Galilee will be immune is absolutely wrong.

[Question] Namely, we can theoretically now strike far beyond Beirut, perhaps north of Beirut.

[Answer] We set clear-cut objectives. When we reached the Beirut-Damascus highway, we did so also as a result of a Cabinet decision. When we tried to prevent a war with the Syrians, we failed, to our regret. However, we are currently in a situation -- we reached this situation today, at the end of the battles fought by units of the armored corps and the paratroopers and I particularly mentioned the Golani battalion because I think that it did an exceptional job -- where we have several possibilities to act against the center which still remains in Beirut: We have several options, and the government will have to decide about it. Under no circumstances would I say that the Peace for Galilee Operation has become an operation for peace in Lebanon. However, I would give a definition: I would say that it is largely hypocritical to say that what is happening in Lebanon is none of our business. Is it really none of our business? Let us say that a government is established in Lebanon which would want to have Syrians in Beirut or a government which would not want Syrians in Beirut: Is it not our business that a government is established which would not want terrorists in Lebanon or one which would want them there -- is it not our business? I would say that we are limited in our ability to get involved in this issue; the issue of Lebanon is a complex problem. However, to say that it is none of our business.... In my opinion, the goal is the well-being of Israel and the Israeli people. Peace in Lebanon has a direct impact on the well-being and security of the Israeli people.

[Question] Mr Sharon, I thank you very much, a good Sabbath to you.

ALGERIA

FOREIGN MINISTRY ON U.S. VETO; APS ON LEBANON

LD270147 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Excerpts] The UN General Assembly has approved a resolution calling on Israel to immediately withdraw all its forces from Lebanon.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Algiers explained yesterday that the recent U.S. veto at the Security Council proves the United States is colluding directly in the aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian people.

The spokesman affirmed that, in the face of this situation, the reply of the Arab nation should match the level of the challenges.

Aiter noting that every day that passes makes clearer the dimensions of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the extent of the widespread international collusion in this big game that seeks to finish off the Palestinian people and their revolution and spread Zionist-imperialist domination of the entire area, APS says: Three weeks from the beginning of the invasion and the accompanying killing and destruction that have reached the level of blind barbarism, it has become clear that Israel, which derives military and political strength from U.S. protection, will not stop at the point of striking at the positions of the Palestinian Resistance in Lebanon but will try to impose the silence of death on the Palestinian people and to destroy the will of the Arab resistance and make the area a Zionist-American protectorate or rather a plantation.

The agency adds: While U.S. participation in the implementation of this vile conspiracy is known, the attitude of the West and its silence in the face of the calamity cannot be explained except as collusion with the aggressors, keeping quiet about and accepting the results of aggression.

The European states that rushed to impose sanctions in the case of the Malvinas Islands have done nothing about the annihilation of the Palestinian people and the destruction of Lebanon. These states merely issued a collection of formal condemnations that did not advance or delay anything.

APS concludes its commentary by saying that since the issue today concerns the extermination of the Palestinian people and the liquidation of their cause, Algeria regards the Palestinian issue as a sacred issue [words indistinct].

LIBYA

TRIPOLI ON HAIG RESIGNATION, SHULTZ APPOINTMENT

LD261540 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan yesterday accepted the resignation of his secretary of state, Alexander Haig. Former Treasury Secretary George Shultz has been appointed as his successor. Regarding this news, Al-Jamahiriyah radio's political editor has written the following analysis:

The resignation of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig yesterday evening removes the mask from the blundering and haphazardness of Reagan's administraion and exposes the extent of the effect of personal conflicts and private interests on political decisionmaking in the United States.

At a time when the Reagan administration is endeavoring to dominate the peoples of the world and to subjugate them by force, scandals are taking place along U.S. political corridors, the protagonists of which are members of the Reagan administration.

Observers think the periods of Reagan's rule and of the rule of former President Richard Nixon are among the worst experienced by the United States due to widespread corruption and bribery. During the past 2 months, the involvement of the U.S. President's labor secretary, Raymond Donovan, in corruption and bribery cases with one of the labor unions was exposed, as was his strong links with criminal gangs. Despite Donovan's indictment, the U.S. President retained him due to the vast sums spent by Donovan from unknown sources for Reagan's benefit during previous elections, a matter that led some observers to surmise that President Reagan himself knew about Donovan's links with those gangs, which dominiate labor unions in the United States. In addition to this, U.S. sources this month revealed the involvement of the U.S. justice secretary, Frank [as heard] [name indistinct], in [word indistinct] and financial cases. National Security Adviser Richard Allen was previously removed from his post after another scandal.

Zionist reactions were strong, and the cease-fire in Beirut came after the Zionists learned about the sudden resignation of Haig who was considered a close friend of the Zionist entity. A spokesman for the Zionist Foreign Ministry stated that the Zionists deeply regret the resignation, adding that the Zionist entity respected Haig as a prominent political leader and a faithful friend of that entity, especially after his support of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon.

Some observers considered Zionist reactions as an indication of the extent of Alexander Haig's influence on Zionist-U.S. relations and on the U.S. stand toward the Arab nation. The Zionist lobby's domination over political decisions in the United States makes successive U.S. leaders definitely pro-Zionist. Sources indicate that the leaning of the new secretary of state, George Shultz, strongly contradict those of Alexander Haig, while fully corresponding with those of Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. They both belong to the Republican Party, to which Reagan also belongs.

George Shultz's stand toward the Arab-Zionist conflict emerged clearly a long time ago. In a statement before being appointed secretary of state, he strongly defended his pro-Zionist stand: I am in complete agreement with President Reagan's support for the Zionist entity. That is not strange in a government dominated by bribery, especially from the Zionist lobby. George Shultz, who has worked as a former treasury secretary, budget director and labor secretary in the reign of former President Richard Nixon, awaits the Senate's confirmation in the coming weeks. Arab rulers' positions toward him remain sympathetic until the Senate's questions regarding his loyalty to Israel and the extent of his commitment to it prove once again Zionism is America's ally in every [word indistinct].

AL-QADHDHAFI MEETS WITH SOCIALIST AMBASSADORS

LD261938 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Jun (JANA) -- The brother leader of the revolution made it clear to the ambassadors of the Soviet Union, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Czechoslovakia and East Germany that the friendship between Arab progressive forces and the socialist countries is passing through danger, like the danger that surrounds the Palestinian Resistance.

This friendship is almost ready to go up in flames the way Beirut is going up in flames, and we have no answer to those Arabs in the street who ask about the posture of our friends vis-a-vis the Zionist-American aggression. The brother leader asked the ambassadors to convey this to their governments. The meeting lasted 5 minutes.

LIBYA WANTS ARAB SUMMIT TO DISCUSS LEBANON

LD251430 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Jun (JANA) -- A responsible source at the People's Bureau for External Liaison told a JANA correspondent that Libya will only attend a summit conference to discuss a halt to the aggression on Lebanon and the Palestinian people. As for attending an Arab foreign ministers' conference, Libya will not attend it because it is a conspiracy to undermine the summit and because the ministers are not qualified to adopt resolutions conforming to what the enemy imposed in Lebanon.

TRIPOLI DENOUNCES ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

LD261420 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1320 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Arab foreign ministers are to meet in Tunis this evening on the pretext of discussing the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. There is no doubt that Arab foreign ministers will not devote their meeting in Tunis this evening to doing or achieving anything, but will perform a requiem for the Palestinian people. They do not have the power to achieve any task or objective. They definitely cannot make decisions, and they are not authorized to do anything that could repel the Zionist invasion. Therefore, the meeting seems to be a propaganda gathering that will only serve the enemy. If any Arab will, determination or decency existed, today's meeting would be a meeting of Arab leaders and presidents who have decisionmaking powers and all the mandatory powers which could achieve the impossible if used with faith and sincerity. However, they have refrained from that and have placed their mandatory powers in decorative frames for achieving selfish interests and objectives that will not serve the Arab nation or the Palestinian cause.

Most Arab foreign ministers who today are rushing to perform the requiem are well known for their agentry and their service to the U.S. CIA. We can expose them and produce strong evidence that would show their position as agents. In brief, their meeting is futile; they are wasting time in the interest of the enemy and of U.S. imperialism for adopting more solutions and decisions.

'Tantamount to Requiem Mass'

LD280034 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] The foreign ministers conference in Tunis has ended without arriving at any results, because the participants did not have the power to decide anything that fits the circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing.

It was supposed that an urgent Arab summit would be held whose only topic would be to repel the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. The aim behind the foreign ministers' meeting was to obstruct the convening of the urgent summit to enable the Zionist enemy and the reactionary regimes allied to the enemy to implement the defeatist and capitulationist plan to destroy the resistance and to encircle steadfast Syria as an integral part of the great international conspiracy engineered by the U.S. administration and the enemy in alliance with their agents in the Arab area.

The foreign ministers meeting was tantamount to a requiem mass for the Pale[illegible]inian issue, the resistance and the Lebanese people.

ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS CALLS PAN-ARAB CONFERENCE

LD271336 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] The permanent secretariat of the Arab people's congress has called on political and popular organizations to convene an emergency session of the Arab people's congress in Tripoli 1-2 July so the Arab people may take up their responsibilities in a more challenging and more effective way to confront the Zionist-imperialist invasion of Lebanon and to break the seige around the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

The council of delegates at the permanent secretariat is continuing contacts with various Arab areas to make a success of the important pan-Arab conference and to prepare programs and plans to confront the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary alliance.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA RECEIVES SOVIET AMBASSADOR 24 JUNE

LD251243 Rabat MAP in English 1213 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Excerpt] Rabat, June 25 (MAP) -- Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta received here Thursday Soviet Ambassador to Rabat Yevgeniy Nersesov.

Talks mainly focused on bilateral relations and on the situation currently prevailing in the Middle East and south Lebanon in particular.

Mr Boucetta also evoked with the Soviet diplomat the crisis the Organization of African Unity is currently going through following the illegal decision of the administrative secretary general of the OAU to admit the so-called "Saharawi Republic".

BOUCETTA WELCOMES GUINEAN PRESIDENT 25 JUNE

LD251344 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1310 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Summary] Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure arrived today in Morocco. He told reporters at the airport that he is happy to be in Morocco and that he will be discussing matters of common interest and African and international problems with His Majesty King Hassan II. He was welcomed on arrival by the minister of state for foreign affairs, M'hamed Boucetta.

Meetings Held

LD260352 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Summary] King Hassan this evening held a working meeting with Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure who is on a private visit to Morocco. "Following their meeting, the king and President Sekou Toure chaired an extended working meeting attended by the ministerial delegation accompanying the Guinean president, the Senegalese minister of state for foreign affairs, the Ivoirian minister of foreign affairs, the Gabonese minister of national defense, Niger's ambassador to the United Nations, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta, and Ahmed Reda Guedira, the king's adviser. Later, King Hassan gave an iftar [fast-breaking] party in honor of the Guinean president.

Sekou Toure Departs

LD271444 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] On his departure from Morocco yesterday, Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure said he conferred with His Majesty King Hassan II about issues that concern the Moroccan and Guinean peoples, including African and international problems. The Guinean president explained that the talks also included the disarmament issue from the angle of fulfilling the world and African peoples' aspirations for security and peace -- two essential conditions for their development.

The Guinean president arrived in New York where tomorrow he will address the UN General Assembly on disarmament.

TUNISIA

PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA CRITICIZES U.S. VETO

LD262222 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Statement by President Habib Bourguiba issued on 26 June]

[Text] The second veto decided by the United States at the Security Council, this time against a French draft resolution seeking to avert bloodshed in Beirut, poses a point of conscience to all those who share with the United States the ideals of freedom, justice and right.

Everything is taking place as if the genocide perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinian people enjoys the support of the U.S. Government. This not only gives us pain, but also obliges us to assume our responsibilities as Tunisians, as Arabs and as Muslims.

TWO WEEKLIES SUSPENDED FOR 'FALSE REPORTS'

NC261411 Paris AFP in English 1049 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Tunis, June 26 (AFP) -- The Tunisian authorities have suspended two weekly newspapers for six months for publishing false reports, it was learnt here today.

The weekly ERRAI, founded by former Minister Hassib Ben Ammar, has been temporarily banned after its latest edition, which was seized, printed "tendentious and unfounded statements" attributed to Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali which constituted defamation of the ruling Destourian Socialist Party and its members, according to informed sources here.

The independent weekly MAGHREB was suspended for publishing "false information in bad faith likely to disturb public order and defame official institutions."

CAMEROON

PRESIDENT AHIDJO, CABINET DISCUSS OAU, CHAD

AB252047 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Excerpts] The head of state today presided over a Cabinet meeting during which special reports were presented by the ministers of finance, information and culture and the minister of state in charge of relations with the assembly. The Cabinet also reviewed the African and international situations and reiterated Cameroon's neutrality in the Chadian crisis and its rejection of the OAU council decisions taken at the ministerial conference in Addis Ababa last February.

On the international scene, the head of state took a look particularly at the current crisis in the OAU, at the situation in Chad and his recent visit to Canada. On the OAU crisis, as he recalled the present situation and Cameroon's firm stance against the decision of last February Addis Ababa council of ministers meeting which he considered illegal, null and void, the head of state reaffirmed that Cameroon would not take part in OAU meetings unless a satisfactory solution was found to the problem. However, he underlined Cameroon's continued search for such a solution with other states of the organization.

Concerning the situation in Chad, meanwhile, maintaining its neutrality vis-a-vis the conflict and its efforts and tradition of hospitality and solidarity toward a brotherly country and neighbor, Cameroon continues to welcome Chadian refugees without discrimination so long as they accept to settle in the (Kpoyi) refugee camp, respect our laws and abstain from all political activities, basically subversive and destabilizing actions against Chad or any other foreign state.

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH HABRE ENVOYS 24 JUNE

AB261035 Paris AFP in English 0852 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Yaounde, 26 Jun (AFP) -- Cameroon President Ahmadou Ahidjo has had a meeting here with envoys sent by Hissein Habre, the new strongman of neighboring Chad, according to reliable reports.

An official statement published earlier this week reaffirmed Cameroon's intention to observe "the strictest neutrality with regard to all parties in the Chadian conflict."

Mr Habre's Armed Forces of the North (FAN) entered the Chadian capital, Ndjamena, at the beginning of the month, chasing interim President Goukouni Oueddei south into Cameroon. Mr Goukouni is now reported to be in Algeria.

The sources here said the meeting with the envoys took place on Thursday, but it has not been reported by the local media. The three-man Chadian delegation was led by Ahmed Dadji, the commissioner (minister) of establishments in Mr Habre's newly appointed Cabinet.

Receives Habre Message

AB270700 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] The head of state, Ahmadou Ahidjo, yesterday received a special envoy of Chadian President Hissein Habre. The envoy, Chad's commissioner for the public service, handed him a personal message from the Chadian president to President Ahidjo.

CHAD

HABRE TROOPS SEARCH OUT ACYL SUPPORTERS

AB251258 Paris AFP in French 1008 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Yaounde, 25 Jun (AFP) -- Two batallions of Hissein Habre's FAN left Ndjamena a few days ago to search for members of Acyl Ahmat's group in the Bousso region, about 208 km southeast of the Chadian capital, according to informed sources in Yaounde.

According to the same sources, it is not known if the FAN troops have reached Bousso or if there has been any fighting with the supporters of Acyl Ahmat, former minister of foreign affairs and president of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (generally considered pro-Libyan), who have sought refuge in this area after the recent takeover of power in Ndjamena by Hissein Habre.

Observers note that it does not seem that Acyl Ahmat's group, which is made up of between 1,500 and 3,000 well-armed soldiers, intends to remain in the Bousso area. They instead plan to move to Mongo, Acyl's traditional headquarters 400 km to the north.

It is stated in Yaounde that the former head of the Chadian Foreign Ministry has refused to join FAN for now, even though he is not militarily opposed to its taking over Ndjamena a few weeks ago. Acyl Ahmat has therefore adopted a different attitude to that of Col Kamougue Abdel Kader, the major southern leader, who has already made it clear that he is ready to "negotiate" with the new power in Ndjamena. Faced with the intransigence of Acyl Ahmat, Hissein Habre has finally decided to pursue his supporters. This is why he has sent FAN troops to the Bousso.

Clashes in Bousso

AB281105 Paris AFP in French 1036 GMT 28 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Yaounde, 28 Jun (AFP) -- Elements of Hissein Habre's FAN and Acyl Ahmat's forces engaged in serious clashes a few days ago in the Bousso region, 200 km southeast of Ndjamena, reliable sources announced in Yaounde on Monday.

FAN units of about 600 men successfully put to flight the fighters loyal to the former foreign minister and leader of the Revolutionary Democratic Council who fled to Bousso when Hissein Habre's troops took over Ndjamena on 6 June, the same sources announced.

No figures on loss of lives and equipment in the fighting were available in the Cameroonian capital.

Acyl Ahmat's men are reported to be now heading toward Moundou, traditionally the stronghold of their leader.

Observers note this is the first time FAN has sought to engage in armed clashes with elements of another political and military faction in Chad since it gained power.

ACYL REPORTED READY FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH HABRE

AB251548 Paris AFP in French 1425 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Paris, 25 Jun (AFP) -- Former Chadian Foreign Affairs Minister Acyl Ahmat said today in Paris that he is ready to hold discussions with Hissein Habre on the reconciliation of Chad and hopes the OAU will guarantee that.

In an interview with journalists, Acyl, who did not exclude contacts with the FAN leaders, explained that Chadians should "surpress their quarrels and ambitions." "Nothing prevents us from collaborating" (with Hissein Habre), he said, adding: "We already did so during the Lagos conference" (in 1979).

For Acyl, in fact, most esential is that the desire for peace should be real. "Arms have never solved anything," he emphasized. "Hissein Habre should show proof of this by acts demonstrating his sincerity."

He then explained that his forces left Ndjamena voluntarily to avoid loss of human life and new desruction in the capital. "We told the coalition," Acyl added," to (?find a) solution other than military (to the Chadian problem), but we were not listened to. We could not continue the war with those who do not listen to others."

After recalling that Goukouni Oueddei, who is "currently in Algiers," left Chad without resigning his post of president of the Transitional National Government of Chad, Acyl said he is in favor of a rapid "clarification" of the situation.

Acyl said he intends going to Tripoli before returning to Chad. He explained that, in Paris, he had discussions with Claude Soubest, French ambassador to Ndjamena.

COMMITTEE SPELLS OUT NEGOTIATION CONDITIONS

AB261336 Paris AFP in French 1226 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Ndjamena, 26 Jun (AFP) -- The "Permament Committee," the political and administrative body in control of southern Chad, spelled out its conditions on Saturday for any negotiations with the "other factions" in Chad.

In a declaration broadcast on the radio station in Moundou (one of the major southern townships), the "Permanent Committee," which is chaired by Colonel Kamougue, first described itself as the "only representative body" of this region of Chad in case of any negotiations.

This organization, which claims to be the "emanation of the Chadian Armed Forces [FAT]," demands before any negotiations the release of FAT soldiers taken prisoners by the "other factions." It also demands that FAT be recognized as an institution of the Chadian state and calls for equal treatment in the distribution of Cabinet posts within the future government.

With regard to southern Chad, the "Permanent Committee" has proclaimed the dissolution of the Rally for Unity and Democracy in Chad [RUDT], a political party created last March by former Prime Minster Djidingar Dono Ngardoum.

According to Moundou radio, the "Permanent Committee" denounced the"destabilizing" character of RUDT. Several leading RUDT members, former Agriculture Minister Naimbaye Lossimian particularly, were accused by Colonel Kamougue of being involved in the recent bloody fighting in Moundou.

MOZAMBIQUE

DEFENSE, SECURITY FORCES RAID 'BANDIT' CAMP

EA251420 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1300 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Defense and security forces have captured a central base of armed gangsters in southern Tete Province, near Manica, killing bandits and capturing two. Mozambique citizens who had been forced by the bandits to stay inside the base were also freed.

According to our radio correspondent in Tete, quoting defense and security force sources, the military operations which resulted in the capture of the base began on 22 June and resulted in the capture of a large quantity of war materiel, including mortars, mines and ammunition. Belongings pillaged from the population also were recovered. According to the same source, the action was made possible with the conscientious participation of local residents.

ANGOP REPORTS ON ARMING OF MOZAMBICANS

AB252006 Luanda ANGOP in French 1430 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Maputo, 25 Jun (ANGOP) -- At the end of the seventh anniversary of independence, marking the end of colonial rule, Mozambicans are taking up arms once again to defend the revolution.

Shouting "Death to the bandits, we want arms," at a rally organized on 24 June and addressed by President Samora Machel, the people of the Mozambique capital demonstrated their readiness to combat the armed bandits instigated by racist South Africans that have spread throughout Mozambique territory over the past 2 years. He pointed out during the rally that some progressive governments have failed becuase they were unable to lean on the strength of the people. On this occasion, President Samora Machel symbolically distributed arms to about 200 Mozambicans and promised that the distribution exercise will continue at the level of all dynamic groups, the people's militia and of the other structures of the people's power in the Mozambique capital and the rest of the country. In fact, the presence of these armed bandits directed by Pretoria lately has been the basis of the instability and insecurity that prevail in several regions of the center and south of Mozambique and this has affected economic activity and made victims of the civilian population.

The Mozambique president said there are two aspects to the action by the bandits: first, committing odious crimes such as infanticide, cutting women's breasts and lips, burning houses and buses with passengers on board and, second, creating a destabilizing and insecure psychological climate by way of organized actions especially in towns (false rumors, small-scale acts of sabotage, crimes and assaults).

The rally of 22 June [date as received] follows two important meetings chaired by President Samora Machel in the course of the last few weeks with a view to increasing people's awareness of the need to strengthen their vigilance and armed organization against the increasing pressure exerted by imperialism and its stooges on Mozambique territory.

At the first meeting, organized in Beira, major town in Sofala Province (the bandits' main area of operations), the veterans of the national liberation struggle asked to be reintegrated into the revolution's most difficult task, namely, the war against the armed bandits.

This week, the Mozambique head of state also met with Mozambicans who were members of the forces of repression during the colonial days, such as the former police for the control of foreigners and defense of the state (PIDE), the former commandos, etc. This meeting led to a process of rehabilitation from the disgrace in which they have been since the country's independence. Several of them requested that their rehabilitation be completed by their incorporation into the forces for the defense of the revolution, particularly in the military sector.

During the rally organized in Maputo, the Mozambique president and all state and party leaders were dressed in military uniform and, in view of the forthcoming arming, issued the catchword echoed in previous meetings: "Let us take off our ties and put on uniforms" like Samora Machel who adjusted his pistol on his belt before the public, swearing never to part with it.

That day, the speech by the Mozambique head of state was centered on the need to consolidate Maputo as a liberated zone. To this effect, the establishment of an obligatory cease-fire has been announced, as well as the organization of patrols all over the town in order to get rid of marginals, thieves, speculators, other criminals and also a number of people who take advantage of the liberty won by the people to form armed groups in the towns.

On the same issue, the Mozambique president announced that military groups will be selected to ensure tranquillity and security, more especially in front of state buildings, enterprises and residential areas of diplomats and expatriates, adding that the wave of mass exodus of rural inhabitants to the capital will be stopped.

Effectively, it is from among the idle and marginal population in the Mozambique capital -- inflated by this rural exodus and creating unemployment, discontentment and consequently corruption -- that the racist enemy is seducing and recruiting the elements, formerly integrated in the self-styled Mozambique National Resistance [RNM]

There, at the moment, all measures being adopted are aimed at containing the climate of insecurity that is still being observed within the less politicized population.

If it is certain that the seriousness of the situation must not be underrated, the so-called RNM is making movement between the country's principal towns difficult and even carries out activities of banditry about 100 km from Maputo.

At this point, Mozambicans are aware -- in the same way as they were when they defeated the colonial armies and Ian Smith -- of their victory over this new supplement of capitalism and of imperialism, as usual, under the organization and direction of the Frelimo.

As President Samora Machel said, we are 12.5 million Mozambicans out of which 900,000 live in Maputo, but we only live as a people when we are united and organized.

Situated at opposite extremes of the southern part of the African Continent, Angola and Mozambique experience the same problems from the same enemy but have the same high hopes in the final victory.

SOUTH AFRICA

FOREIGN MINISTER REGRETS HAIG RESIGNATION

LD261132 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says he learned of General Haig's resignation with great regret and disappointment.

However, he has been encouraged by a personal letter from him, which was delivered by the American ambassador to South Africa, Mr Hermann Nickel, earlier today. Botha says the letter emphasizes the positive aspects of relations between South Africa and the United States and reconfirms the understandings reached between the two governments. He hopes that the constructive relations that General Haig developed with the South African Government will be continued by his successor.

SWAPO REJECTS PRECONDITIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE

LD280938 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 28 Jun 82

[Text] A spokesman for the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] says his organization will resist attempts by South Africa to make the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola a condition for the independence of South-West Africa. In an interview with the Zambian SUNDAY TIMES, the SWAPO administrative secretary, Mr Moses Garoeb, said the presence of Cuban troops in Angola was solely the concern of the Angolan and Cuban Governments. SWAPO would never accept their withdrawal as a condition for a settlement in South-West Africa.

Earlier this month, the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, made it clear that South Africa would not accept the implementation of the Western settlement plan for South-West Africa unless the Cubans were withdrawn from Angola. The Angolan Government has said that there can be no link between the Cuban presence and the negotiations on the independence of South-West Africa/Namibia.

MOZAMBIQUE RESISTANCE DENIES GOVERNMENT CLAIMS

LD261146 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] A spokesman for the Mozambique National Resistance Movement [MNR] has denied reports from Maputo that government forces captured an MNR base in Tete Province on the eve of the celebrations marking the seventh anniversary of the country's independence. Speaking in Lisbon, the spokesman challenged the authorities in Maputo to produce the 8 resistance fighters reportedly captured in the attack and the bodies of the 27 men who were said to have been killed. He said the reports were a propaganda bluff aimed at boosting morale in the wake of attacks on targets near Maputo by the National Resistance Movement. The government forces claimed they captured mortars, landmines and equipment in the base which were used to disrupt the traffic between Mozambique and Zimbabwe and Malawi.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BODIES ESTABLISHED

MB250941 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0600 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] The office of the prime minister has announced that eight regional development advisory committees have been established. In a statement issued in Pretoria, the office says the committees have been formed so as to be geographically and institutionally as representative as possible.

Bodies represented include central authoritative institutions charged with regional development, provincial administrations, local authorities representing all population groups, regional development associations and certain private bodies that are organized on both a regional and a national basis. A national advisory board for regional development is to be established later.

SWAZILAND

PRIME MINISTER, LIBYAN OFFICIAL DISCUSS ISSUES

MB280721 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 28 Jun 82 p 1

[Text] A high powered Swazi delegation is to visit Tripoli to brief the Libyan leader on the land deal with South Africa.

The delegation is expected to leave Swaziland within the next few weeks to explain to Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi the whole background to the deal, foreign affairs minister, R.V. Dlamini said yesterday.

"We are trying to put in order what has been all along out of order," said Mr Dlamini. He was speaking at Matsapha Airport during the departure of the Libyan minister for foreign affairs, Mr 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, who delivered a special message to King Sobhuza II from Col al-Qadhdhafi.

Mr. Dlamini said there were up to now no recognised borders between Swaziland and South Africa. The present talks with the South African Government, he said, were aimed at normalising the present position.

He also assured the Libyan envoy that Swaziland will be going to the forthcoming Organisation of African Unity summit in Tripoli. He said he would be leading the Kingdom's delegation to the ministerial meeting starting on July 26, and the prime minister is expected to head the delegation to the summit expected to start on August 5 to the 8th.

During an interview with newsmen, the Libyan minister said his country, whose president is next chairman of the OAU would stand by Swaziland in case of an OAU conflict over the land issue. "I have deep respect for the king's judgment. I respect his efforts to get the sovereignty of all the Swazi people and Swaziland's territorial integrity," he said.

During his discussions with the prime minister, Prince Mabandla, the Libyan minister said he understood Swaziland's special problems in the region and understood the government's reactions to those problems. They also discussed the Chad question and the Polisario.

ZIMBABWE

POLICE, SOLDIERS MOVE INTO BULAWAYO TOWNSHIPS

LD271152 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] A report from Bulawayo in Zimbabwe says hundreds of policemen and soldiers supported by armored vehicles and helicopters have moved into the black townships of Bulawayo, a political stronghold of opposition leader Joshua Nkomo, in an operation apparently aimed at rounding up renegade former bush fighters and illegal weapons.

The operation, in which many people who could not produce identification were placed in guarded stockades, came 2 days after attacks on the residences of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and the minister of national supply, Senator Enos Nkala. Mr Nkomo himself is said to be touring the area, urging people to keep calm.

Checkpoints have been set up at entrances and exits to the black townships to screen motorists. Unconfirmed reports say a security fence has been put up around the township of Luveve.

HERALD CALLS FOR MILITARY TRIBUNALS, ARMY PURGE

AB251214 Paris AFP in English 1152 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Harare, 25 Jun (AFP) -- The HERALD newspaper today called for the setting up of military tribunals empowered to pass death sentences without appeal following yesterday's attacks on the homes of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and Cabinet Minister Enos Nkala.

Linking the attacks with the continuing killings and robberies by former guerrillas believed to support minority leader Joshua Nkomo, the paper, which generally reflects government thinking, also called for a curfew in Matabeleland and a purge of the army.

There have been large-scale desertions from the army by former members of Mr Nkomo's forces following his dismissal from the government in February after huge arms caches were found on properties controlled by his Patriotic Front [PF] Party. Most of the violence has taken place in Matabeleland, in the southwest, where the majority of Mr Nkomo's Nedebele-speaking supporters live and PF membership is concentrated.

The paper suggested that Mr Nkomo's party might be actively encouraging the violence. "Yesterday's incident should not be viewed in isolation, it is part of a general plan to get rid of the present government," the editorialsaid. "It is our firm belief that these faceless men who go about robbing, shooting and mutilating people are doing so with the aid of a political party...Our solution: Curb the movement of people in Matabeleland, introduce a curfew.

The men who attacked Mr Mugabe's official residence early yesterday, spraying it with authomatic rifle fire, were dressed in army uniform and used a military vehicle believed to have been stolen shortly before, according to official sources. Police have not yet identified one attacker found dead near Mr Nkala's home after a brief gunfight with guards, nor have they located the vehicle used in that attack.

The HERALD said the time had come to purge "undesirables" from the army. "Those who are likely to desert...should now be pruned," it said. Any such action would most likely be against those of Mr Nkomo's followers who have remained in the army.

The national army is composed of elements of the three forces involved in the fight for the majority rule: Mr Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (ZANLA), Mr Nkomo's Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA), and their erstwhile enemy the Rhodesian Army.

PRESIDENT SENDS ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE TO MACHEL

MB251344 Harare Domestic Service in English 0800 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] The president, Comrade Banana, has sent a message to the Mozambican leader, Comrade Samora Machel, on the occasion of that country's seventh anniversary of independence. Part of the message reads: Zimbabwe cherishes its revolutionary (?zeal) for (?bringing) the solidarity that exists between our peoples. The fraternal cooperation between our two countries ensures the social, economic and political development of our people despite the sinister moves by the racist Pretoria regime aimed at destabilizing our systems.